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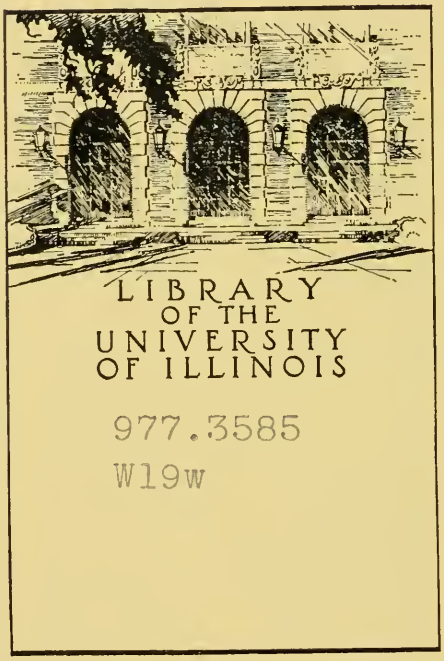
WAPELLA CENTENNIAL

1854 - 1954



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WE GRATEFULLY DEDICATE
THIS SOUVENIR CENTENNIAL
BOOKLET TO THE STURDY PIONEER
MEN AND WOMEN WHO SETTLED
IN WAPELLA
AND GAVE US OUR HERITAGE

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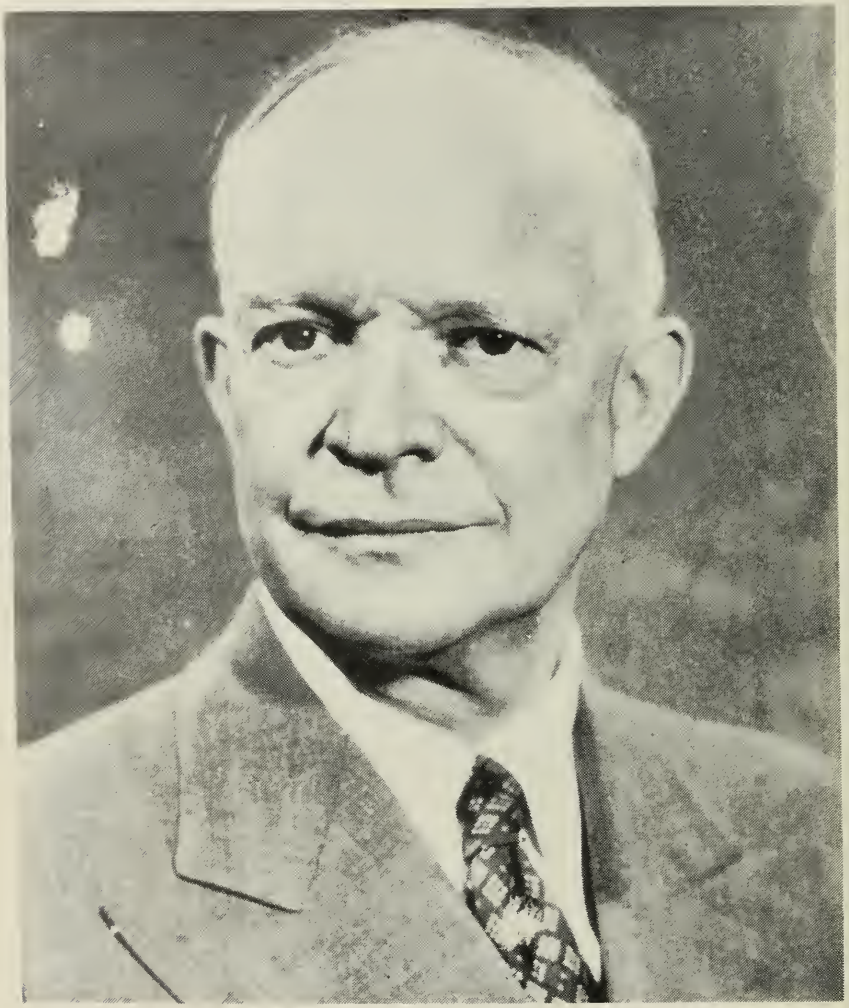
CENTENNIAL POEM

By Helen Baker Adams

The birthyear of a little town calls out
Long memories and the dust from history books.
Menfolks wear bristling beards, the grisly looks
Of plainsmen and the women talk about
Poke bonnets and the day great-grandma wed.
Vast changes have been wrought, these hundred years,
Out of bright hope, hard work and bitter tears,
Proudly they say, "Look what we have instead
Of covered wagons over Indian trails !"
The birthyear of a town is more than this -
It means enduring faith, the lover's kiss,
Man-muscles pounding on the shining rails
Of progress while a kindly God smiles down
To hear the steady heartbeat of this town !



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
President of the United States of America

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

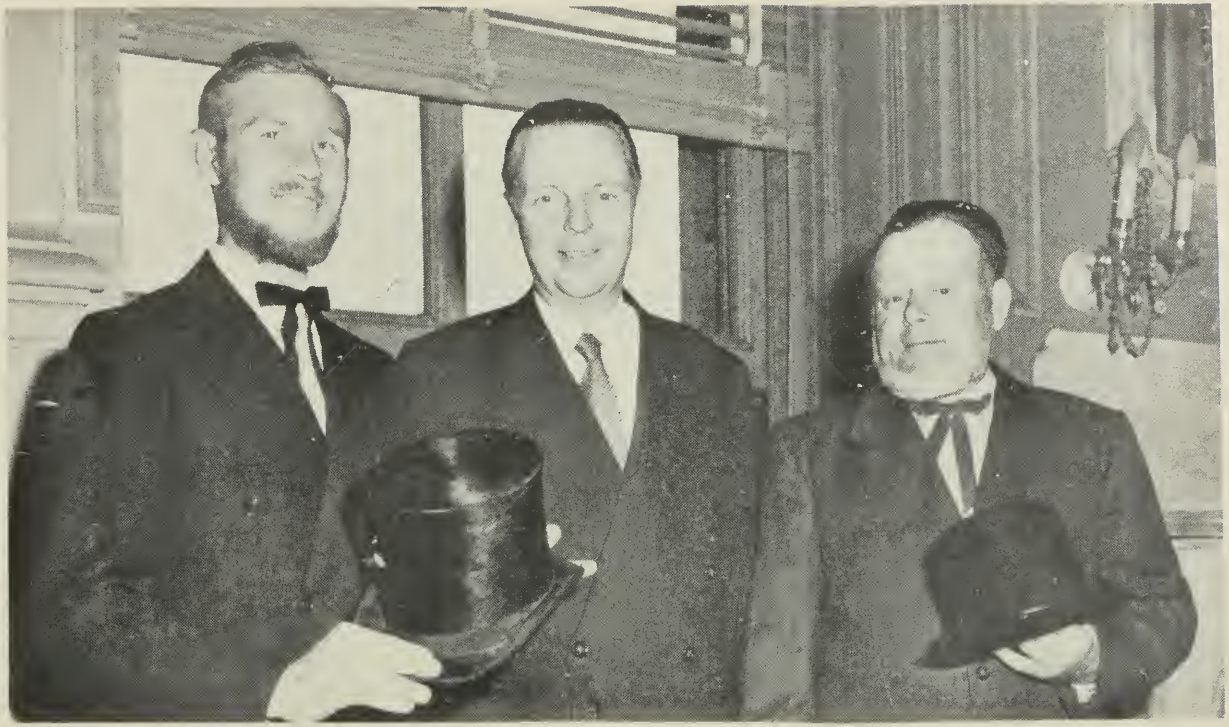
May 27, 1954

TO THE CITIZENS OF WAPELLA:

I have just learned that your community is about to celebrate its one hundredth anniversary, and I am delighted to send all of you warm greetings and congratulations.

You have my best wishes for a most enjoyable centennial celebration and, for all of Wapella's citizens, may future years bring continued happiness and prosperity.

Dwight D. Eisenhower



GOVERNOR WILLIAM G. STRATTON with George Spray, General Centennial Chairman on left, and Irvin Rousey, Village Board Official, right. The Governor Accepted An Invitation to Speak at the Centennial on August 28.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SPRINGFIELD

WILLIAM G. STRATTON
GOVERNOR

May 19, 1954

TO THE CITIZENS OF WAPELLA

You may be sure I am glad to know that the centennial of Wapella is being given appropriate recognition.

I am happy to extend my most cordial congratulations to all the citizens of Wapella on this memorable occasion, and my best wishes for their prosperity and success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

William G. Stratton

Governor

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF WAPELLA TOWNSHIP

Wapella Township has reached far beyond the century mark. To evaluate the one hundred years of its history is difficult for one living within that century. A true evaluation remains for the citizens of tomorrow.

The history of this Township dates back to 1829, when the first settlers arrived. It is bounded on the north by McLean County; Wilson and Harp Townships border on the east; Clintonia on the south; and Barnett and Waynesville form the western boundary. It contains thirty sections of land, about one-third of which was originally timber. Most of the land is deep, rich black soil, especially adapted to the raising of corn, but at the present time oats, wheat, and beans are heavy in production. Productive farmlands have been made of the once wet prairies, as tile and open ditches have drained excessive water away, and today most of the land is under cultivation. The timber that remains is of scenic beauty, and the hills add beauty to the landscape.

The first settlers in Wapella Township were John P. Glenn, John Young, and William Vinson, who came in the year of 1829. Glenn, a native of Virginia, came from Kentucky and located on section 14 in the spring of the above year. His wife and children accompanied him here where they remained until the family moved to Iowa. Vinson and Young came from the same state with their families and located on sections 23 and 25. The former like Glenn moved with his family to Iowa, but the later remained here.

Another pioneer to the Township was Abraham Swearingen, a native of Pennsylvania, coming from Kentucky in the Spring of 1830 to settle on section 15. At that time he was married to Elizabeth Lowe and had seven children, Daniel, George, Lydia, John, Elijah, David, and Samuel. Other children born here were Elizabeth, Lemuel, Sarah, Zilpah, Jemima, Abraham, and Mary. After the death of his first wife, he married Amy Crum in 1843, and two children, Isaac, and Jacob, were born to this union. Mr. Swearingen lived to be almost ninety years of age and spent over a half century in the Township. At the time of his death, he left one hundred grandchildren, one hundred and fifty great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

The Great Iron Horse, of the Illinois Central Railroad, Which Made Its Way Across the County in the Early 50's.

J. B. Lighthall was the City Barber in the 1880's.

This two hundred fifty-two descendants was a most unusual and remarkable record.

In the Spring of 1830 Samuel Spencer of Kentucky entered a tract of land on section 26 and then returned to his former home. In the fall of the same year, he returned bringing with him his wife and seven children. John Troxell and his wife with several children came from the same state and located on section 28. His brother, Frederick Troxell, arrived in the fall with his family, and resided on section 32. The former only stayed for a short time, moving to Iowa, but the latter remained for several years and then moved to Missouri.

Jonathan Harrold, another pioneer from Virginia, emigrated to this state in 1833 and established a residence north east of Waynesville, where he resided until his death occurred in 1836. He brought with him seven children, James, Isam, Mitchell, Eli, Mary, Naomi, and Sophronia. They made the trip in a four-horse drawn wagon with the crooked bed, which in pioneer days was called the steamboat. In 1842, three of the children, Isam, Mitchell, and Eli, procured 200 acres of land in sections 32 and 33 of Wapella Township for their homes.

Other pioneer men who came to the Township to establish a residence were Henry and David Troxell, Joseph Nelson, and Jonathan Atherton.

The homes of these early settlers were small log cabins, as they did not have the money or facilities to construct any better. Each brought with him a keen axe, which was indispensable, and the equally necessary rifle. On arrival the first work was to cut down trees and use the logs to erect cabins. These were made crude, with very few windows, and no glass. Strong paper was oiled and used for window coverings. In some of the cabins the floors were of the dampened earth which would become hard from the constant walking in the small quarters. The fireplace was made very wide, and the winter backlogs were hauled into the house by a horse. The fireplace served for cooking purposes as well as for heating, if there was no stove. Only essential furniture was found in the cabin, as it was all made by hand with the aid of such tools as an axe and augur. The bedstead could be drawn up and fastened to the wall, which provided more space during the day. Some of the men displayed considerable ingenuity in the construction of the furniture and agricultural implements.

Threshing Scene in Early Days

The crops raised were small patches of corn and garden vegetables. At this time the nearest markets were at Peoria and Chicago. Milling was sometimes done at Springfield, a town at that time of three hundred inhabitants. Wild meat was plentiful. Abraham Swearingen often related the story of the killing of seven deers. The Indian corn that was raised was beaten in a mortar, and then the meal was made into coarse wholesome bread. Fish from the streams, turkeys, chickens, and ducks raised provided more food. Maple sugar was in abundance and honey was only five cents a pound. Butter had the same value and eggs were three cents a dozen. Fruit, when in season, was found in the timber along the streams. Coffee and tea were expensive, very little of it was used by the pioneers; the men thought this beverage should be drank by the women and the children.

The women manufactured nearly all the clothing worn by the family. Every home contained a card loom and spinning wheel, which was considered as necessary as the rifle. The dresses were usually made very plain with several yards of material in the skirts. The waist was made short with a draw string at the neck; the sleeves large and tapered from the shoulder to the waist, and sometimes a lining was used. Those who could afford it used feathers, and they were known as pillow sleeves. Many bows and ribbons were worn, but hardly any jewelry. Sometimes lace collars or fancy ribbons were worn at the neck. When going to church services or other public gatherings in summer weather, the pioneers often walked barefooted until almost reaching their destination, then they would put on their shoes or moccasins.

Trousers made from the dressed skin of the deer that swarmed the prairies in large herds, were worn by the men and boys. Often the trousers were fringed, which gave a very pleasing appearance with the gaily colored shirts. Caps were made from the skins of the wolf, fox, wildcat, and muskrat. Most of the people wore moccasins, which in dry weather were an excellent substitute for shoes. Some of the families made shoes and wore them.

Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Swearingen was the first child born in the Township, on July 18, 1830.

The first death to occur was Melinda Troxell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Troxell, who died in the above-mentioned

year. Burial was on the land occupied by her father in section 22, which became the place of interment for the dead, and is now known as the Crum Cemetery.

In the winter of 1831, Edom Schugart taught the first school in a log cabin which did not have any chimney, just an opening in the roof for the smoke to escape, and it was situated on section 27. The cabin being poorly constructed, only one term of school was taught.

In 1850 there was a little hamlet named Zabriska situated on the old state road three miles north of Wapella, which contained seven houses with a population of thirty inhabitants. The Illinois Central Shops locating in Wapella was the reason this hamlet did not develop into a town. It was one of the landmarks of earlier days, a mill being erected there at one time. This mill was built by Samuel Spencer and had the capacity of grinding about twenty-five bushels of corn per day. The first saw mill which had a circular saw and was operated by horse power, was constructed by William Rolofson, and located in Zabriska.

The first postoffice was established in 1845, and was in charge of Abraham Swearingen at his residence in section 15, where it remained until moved to Zabriska, and later to Wapella.

Isam Harrold was the first blacksmith and his shop was situated in section 32 at his home. He had but a few tools for this shop that was constructed in 1845.

The Christian church erected in 1856 on section 22, is given the distinction of being the first church built in the Township.

The sturdy pioneers endured many hardships. They were deprived of the many conveniences of life, and some that are now considered necessities, but there was a happiness among them that we cannot equal today. In their time, they were not afraid to base their hopes of success on the principles of hard work, thrift and rugged integrity. They could vision the evolution of the great prairies and timber. This prescience of the early pioneers is being kept alive today by the leaders of this generation and the people on the threshold of tomorrow.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF WAPELLA

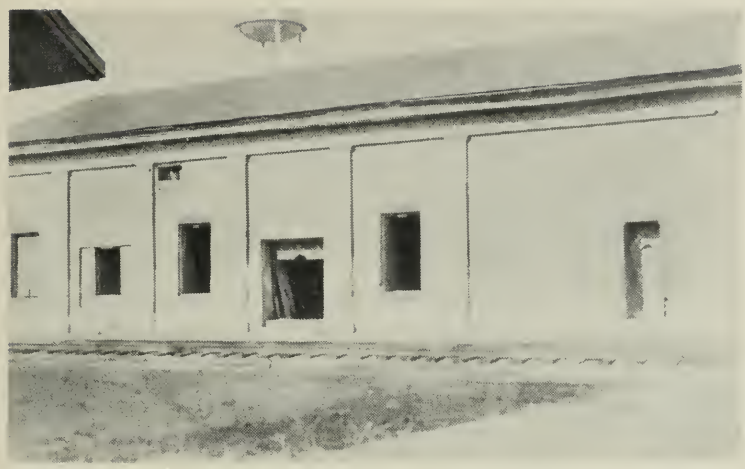
Another milestone marking the growth of a village in Central Illinois is reached in 1954, when the citizens of Wapella commemorate a century of progress with a Centennial celebration. A Centennial is more than a time for counting the past; it is also a moment for measuring the future.

In the fall of 1854, one hundred years ago, David A. Neal laid out the town of Wapella, and the first lots were sold in the spring of 1855, but the town was not incorporated until thirteen years later. Neal, who was in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and at that time vice-president of the road, was the one who gave the name to the town, and it was first spelled Wapellah meaning "He who is painted white." This was the name of the Fox Indian Chief. The first survey was made by the civil engineer of the railroad company, whose work was not officially certified by the county surveyor, Alexander Barnett. For this reason, and a controversy in regard to some of the corners, Oliver Lakin the county surveyor in 1861, surveyed the territory, but made no change in the original plat. The following is the official description of the boundaries: Commencing at the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 34, town 21, range 2 east of the 3rd principal meridian; running west one half mile; south one mile, lacking fifteen rods; east one half mile; north one mile, lacking fifteen rods to the place of beginning.

The coming of the Illinois Central heralded the dawn of a new era in the history of Wapella and DeWitt County. Not only did it provide employment, and give to the county the first and for many years the only rail communication with the outside world, but it was the greatest single factor in the growth and prosperity of this part of Illinois.

It was the first railroad in the country to receive a federal land grant. Through the efforts of Senator Stephen A. Douglas, Judge Sidney A. Breese and others, Congress in September 1850, conveyed 2,595,000 acres of public lands to the State of Illinois to aid in the construction of the long discussed Central Illinois Railroad, and at the same time to enable the government to dispose of its land in the state.

The grant, however, was not a gift, as many persons were led to believe. There were a series of things connected with it. First, that the railroad should transport forever all troops and



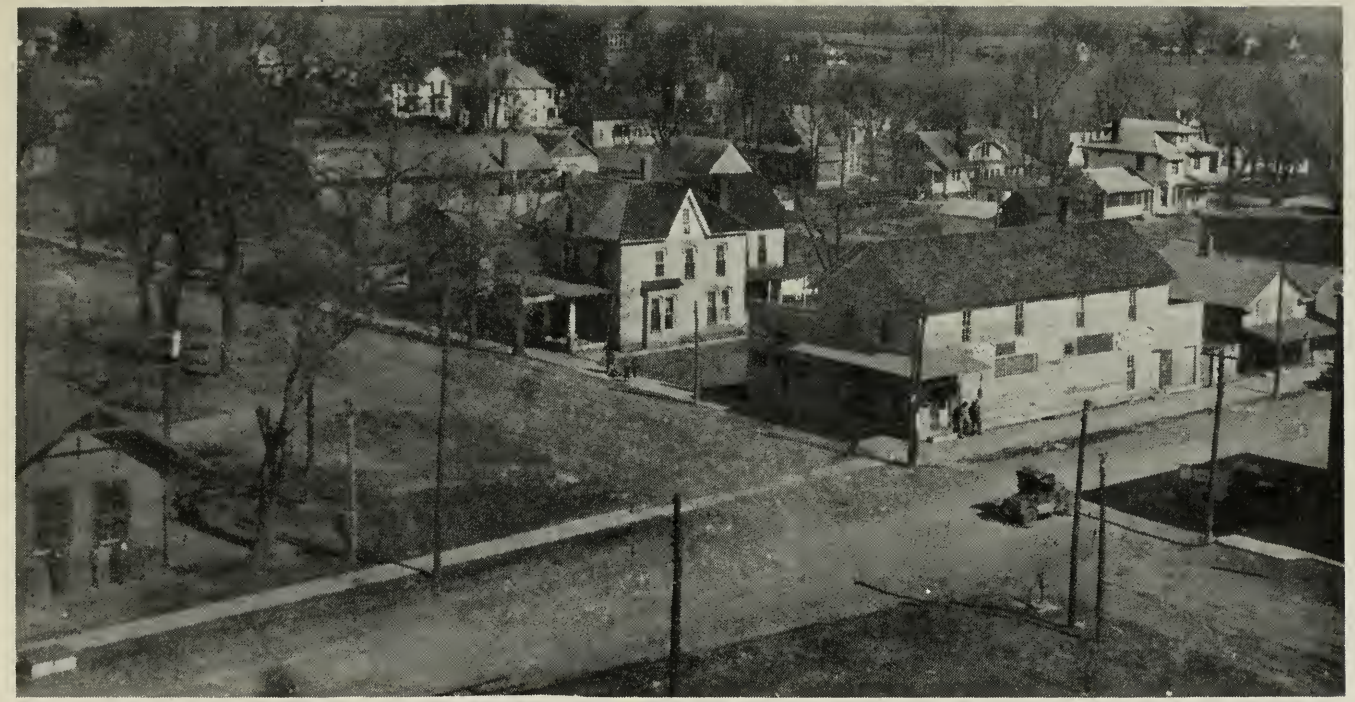
This Building Is 100 years Old. It Was Formerly A Railroad Shop Building. It is Now in Use as a Warehouse for the Delaney Grain and Lumber Co.

Fireside Scene of the Interior of a Grocery Store in Early Days

government property at one half the established rates; second, that all United Sates mails should forever be carried over the lines at eight per cent of established rates; third, that the Illinois Central should forever pay into the state treasury seven cents out of every dollar received for the transportation of passengers, freight, express, and mails over the miles of road. It was estimated as late as 1856 that this so called "charter tax," would bring in annually a revenue to the state of $250,000, but it far exceeded that amount by millions.

At the time the Illinois Central was projected in 1850, less than one-seventh of the area of DeWitt County was in cultivation. The farm property value then was only $1,045,000, but now that the century mark has been reached, the valuation of all land in the county is listed at $40,000,000. In the early fifties a few small industries, such as grist and saw mills, provided employment for forty-five persons, and the value of manufactured products in the county amounted to only $19,462. In railway development Wapella and the rest of the county has been especially favored, as the Illinois Central now owns eighty miles of railroad tracks in the county, and performs all of their railway freight business. This provides an outlet for the grain raised on the number of acres which has been developed into cultivation in Wapella township.

At one time soon after the railroad was built in 1854, it looked as though Wapella might be the leading town in DeWitt County. The Company erected a large brick hotel in the same year, at a cost of $20,000, and located the machine shops and round house here and intended to make this the central point between the northern and southern terminal of the road. The question of Wapella becoming the County Seat instead of Clinton was under discussion in 1857, and again in 1879, but they failed to secure this honor. It was proposed to change the boundaries of the county line, the petition asking for a portion of the southern part of McLean County to be joined to DeWitt, making Wapella more central. Failing in the effort to secure this honor proved rather disastrous to the village, and the railroad machine shops were moved to Clinton, (it was rumored they were moved at night). One of the railroad shop buildings is in use today for a warehouse, by the Delaney Grain and Lumber Company. The large brick hotel built by the Company also failed to secure the patronage that was anticipated. In later years it was a general freight house and ticket office, and afterwards razed and the brick used to build a new hotel, which is now the residence of Robert Christiansen.



AERIAL VIEW OF WAPELLA RESIDENTIAL SECTION

Gibson Coy is given the distinction of having been the first to settle in what is now the village of Wapella. He came in the summer of 1853 at the time of the grading of the railroads. His home was a board shanty 15'x40', situated in the middle of what was later called East and West Central Street. It had bunks arranged one above the other, extending along on either side of the building, and were filled with straw for sleeping purposes. Samuel Rounds was the architect, and by trade a mason and bricklayer. He later made the brick for the machine shops and hotel erected by the railroad company, and aided in their construction.

The second inhabitant in the same year was Philip Donnigan. He built a small shanty, 12'x16' for a dwelling, and it was located on Main Street. His son John Philip, three-month-old at the time of his father's death Aug. 28, 1882, now resides in Clinton and has been an employe of the Illinois Central Railroad for more than fifty years, receiving a golden award in 1952. The mother's death occurred Oct. 27, 1927.

Daniel Thompson was the first merchant and postmaster, and his store was a small frame building located on the lot later occupied by the A. D. Metz business house, which in later years was used by T. J. Willis for a grocery store. At the present time Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Park operate a grocery store on the same location. Thompson began operating the store and post-office in 1854 and continued in business until 1878, when he moved to Lead City. In those former years there was not any distribution of the letters and papers, every one just selected his own.

In the year 1854 A. J. Foster erected a story and a half frame building for a hotel, 18'x26', with sleeping rooms in the upper part, which had accommodations for eight people. This building was neither lathed nor plastered.

In the same year William Graves began operation of a blacksmith shop on Locust street. Succeeding blacksmiths were Scott Roberts, William Rogers, Dennis Ryan, John Clark, Farris Bros., and Peter Abell. The village does not have a shop at the present time.

The second brick edifice was constructed in 1855 by Johnson and Rigg, with location on the corner of North First and Oak streets, which was later occupied by J. M. Greene, who operat-

CARLE BUILDING on left. Post Office Located in Building on Right. Picture Taken June 13, 1879.

ed a grocery and shoe store for a number of years. This landmark was afterwards effaced and the Jasper residence erected on an adjoining lot, which at the present time is the home of the Everett Mearida family.

In the year of 1856, Gibson Coy became the first Justice of the Peace. He later resigned and Thomas Lear became his successor. At the meeting held on February 9, 1867, for the purpose of incorporating the town, Daniel Thompson was chosen as president, and F. M. Vanlue for secretary. When a poll of the votes was taken the result was 37 for and 17 against the proposition. The first election of officers was held on February 16, and Daniel Thompson, Timothy Greene, E. Swift, F. M. Vanlue, and J. D. Metz, were elected as trustees. At the first board meeting held, Thompson and Vanlue were elected to the offices of president and secretary for the ensuing years. The first town hall was a frame building in the west part of the village, since replaced in 1920 with a brick edifice on Main street, with Albert Peyton as contractor.

In 1855 the first fruit tree was planted and the first fence post set by J. D. Metz. The post was placed at the corner of South First and Locust streets and remained standing until 1880.

The first physician to come to the village was Dr. John Wright and his residence was located one mile north of Wapella at the home of Joseph Spencer. Succeeding Doctors were Drs. T. W. Davis, Vesselius Davis, Wainright, Nelson, Potter, Gabbart, Bates, Lee, Robertson and J. B. Jones. Dr. T. W. Davis practiced medicine for about 65 years in this community, and his son Vesselius was a Doctor for 50 years. Dr. J. B. Jones, who located here January 4, 1906, was the last physician to have an office in the town. Dentists who established offices here at various times were Dr. App, now of Decatur; Dr. R. O. Crouch, at present a dentist in Maroa; and Dr. Herr who later moved to Bloomington where he practiced dentistry until his death a few years ago.

In the winter of 1867, smallpox prevailed in the town at an alarming extent. Nearly five hundred inhabitants contracted this disease, and five of the cases proved fatal.

Formation of telephone exchanges in the large cities marked an era in the business world. So when the first telephone line in this vicinity was built by Jeffrey and Wasson in 1898 and

Wapella Youths Off For A Hunting Trip In A Wagon Fashioned After The Covered Wagon. . . Picture Taken About 1900

W. A. Graham Hardware Store in 1907

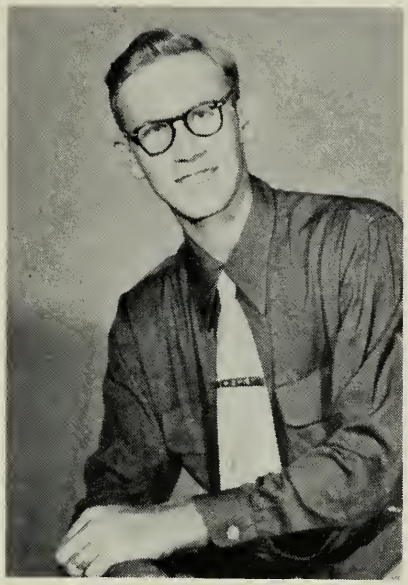
1899, and meant a means of saving time and travel for the merchant and farmer, it therefore met with much success. The fee charged was $18.00 per year. Through the efforts of T. J. Willis, in 1904 a farmers line was built and an office was established in his grocery store. After being in operation for a number of years this line was abandoned and today there is the Illinois Central Telephone Company lines through here with offices maintained at Clinton.

Much credit goes to W. B. McKinley of Champaign for being responsible for the building of the Illinois Traction System. The Interurbans began operation on the Decatur to Bloomington line on July 4, 1906, with the first car going through Wapella at 11:05 A. M. This car was so crowded that all the seats were occupied and the passengers were standing in the aisles. After a period of years, in 1928 the name of the company was changed to Illinois Terminal Railroad. Mr. McKinley was a man of great imagination and had an earnest desire for utilities. He served as United States senator before his death occurred in the 20's. The Illinois Traction System coming to the country was another means of transportation for the people, and the freight cars that hauled grain helped the small towns and stations with elevators. After 47 years of continued service, the Illinois Terminal suspended operation on February 21, 1953. Irvin Rousey of Wapella, is given the distinction of being a passenger on the last car that operated on the Decatur-Bloomington lines.

A bus route between Decatur and Bloomington which is operated by the Illinois Highway Transportation Company, is another progression in transportation. This bus route was made possible when the State built a paved road between these two towns in 1926. This paved road was originally named Route 2, but later the name was changed to U. S. Highway 51.

In 1909 electricity came to the town and this was an important change from the candle and kerosene lamp used in former days. Prior to this date there were some places that had gas lights installed for lighting systems. At this early date electricity was used primarily for lighting, but today it is used by every one for endless domestic, commercial and industrial purposes.

Thirty years later Rural Electrification came to this part of the country. The preceding year 450 farmers signed up to get electricity service from the Corn Belt Electric Cooperative,



GEORGE SPRAY

CENTENNIAL GREETINGS

As General Chairman of the Wapella Centennial I would like to thank everyone who has contributed time, money, or material for the celebration.

To each committee member and head goes a thanks to work well done. We have all had our trying moments.

To every person from one day old to one hundred and two I wish to extend my personal invitation to be with us for the celebration. I believe it is going to be one of the best and biggest ever to be held in Wapella.

Thanks again,

George Spray, General Chr.

and approximately 250 miles of line was built, which placed electricity within reach of these farmers. The rapid extension of power lines to serve farms has done much to stimulate progress and make possible introduction of many labor-saving devices in farm homes. This has lightened the labor of farm people, and made possible more comfortable living on the farm.

Some of the postmasters stationed in the postoffice in the later years were T. F. Greene, J. J. Rolofson, W. A. Graham, O. B. Park, Francis Greene, and James L. Rousey, the present one. Mrs. Irma Greene is the assistant.

Charles E. Swearingen was the first rural mail carrier from this postoffice, and his work was for a period of nine months time in the year of 1901. The territory was then divided into two routes, 1 and 2. Route No. 1 was carried by Owen Andrews, Homer Mouser, J. Arthur Jeffrey, M. C. Mastin, and Claire Swearingen; Route No. 2, by J. W. Scogin, Vernelle Mc Conkey, Warren Storm, and T. F. Greene. In 1947 the two routes were again combined and Claire Swearingen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Swearingen is now the rural carrier for this territory which cover 56 miles. This change was made possible by the remarkable improvement in the road conditions. The progress of the postoffice has been steady over this period of years with the public services rendered, the foremost thought in the minds of the officials.

In the 1940's it was proposed to install a water system in the village, and plans were drawn and specifications given. The proposed cost of the project at that time would be $35,000 with some additional federal aid. The vote taken on this bond issue was favorable for the proposition, but due to a scarcity of supplies during World War II, there was not any work started on the project. Prices had increased, and after the cessation of the war, a vote to issue $20,000 bonds to finance the project was held in May, 1948, with the result 3 to 1 in favor of the proposition. The remainder of the cost, $20,000 was to be paid with government grants.

A test well was made in December, 1939, and production was 233 gallons of water per minute without a noticeable water level loss. At the completion of one day of pumping the water level was 32 feet. After this test well was made construction of the pumping station, laying of the mains, erection of tower began, and on November 1, 1950 the plant went into full oper-

Aerial View of the Residential Section

Main Street As It Appears Today

ation. Installation of this water system was an added improvement to the town.

When the water system was installed in Wapella it was a great factor toward giving the town fire protection, which is a great necessity. The fire equipment is adequate for a small town, and the men who serve on the fire department should be held in high esteem for the many services they render.

One hundred years ago the automobile was unknown. Today it is a major factor in our daily life and the economic welfare of our nation. As early as 1877 the horseless carriage was invented by Seldon. Sixteen years later the first automobile was made in America and introduced to the people. It was built by the Duryear Brothers. Since then many companies have built cars with new designs each year, and in 1954 we have the modern streamlined models. Elihu Thorpe purchased the first automobile in Wapella and he was also the first dealer in the town.

The first gasoline tractor was designed and built about 1892. At that time it was more or less of an experiment, but in the years that followed major companies made new designs that were improvements, and now we have the modern tractor that is considered a necessity for the farmer in his occupation. All types of modern machinery to go with the tractor are on the market today and farming is now done in a very efficient and up to date manner.

Only a few of the inventions has been mentioned, as limitation of space does not permit me to dwell any further on the progress made in the past century.

As we look back into the past it is hard to visualize the independent, self-enduring people who laid the foundation for the things we enjoy today. They have given us a heritage of honor and integrity which gives our town a distinctive character and will influence its development in the future. Wapella may not have the magnificence of large cities, but it has those memories which have made it beloved and cherished by its citizens—it is still WAPELLA ! MAY WE VISION THE FUTURE ? The fulfillment of our dreams and the accomplishments of our ambitions. A GREATER WAPELLA.

GIBSON COY
and Wife Marinda Coy
Picture Taken in 1883

GIBSON COY

Gibson Coy, the first settler in Wapella was born in the state of Vermont on April 10, 1797, the son of Edee Coy and Flora Gibson Coy. They were the parents of eleven children.

On May 10, 1818, Gibson Coy and Miranda Sweet were married. They were the parents of eleven children, Cintha, Evaline, Laura, Minerva, Clarissa, Henry, Hiram, Harriett, Amamda, Amy, and Silas. Several of these children lived in or around Wapella for some years after they were grown.

Gibson Coy died in Wapella on July 24, 1886, and his wife died in Bloomington, November 13, 1897. A granddaughter, Mrs. Loula Hughes, is living at present in the state of Utah, and a great-grandaughter, Mrs. Jeanette Doud, lives in Carthage, Ill.

THE OLD DAYS AT WAPELLA AS FORMERLY RELATED BY A. D. METZ...

I came to Wapella, Ill., in April, 1855, with my parents. My father, John D. Metz, was one of the first merchants of this town. His store stood where the Farmers and Merchants Bank now stands. When about ten years old, I was asked by an uncle what I would do when I got to be a man. I replied that I wanted to be a merchant. In 1857 I dropped or planted by hand forty acres of corn for J. R. Stone. After it came up, I helped to hoe it over twice; the season was so wet land could not be plowed; could not plow it until it was about six inches high. Henry Rhodes, who was conductor of a freight train, Wapella to Centralia, employed me to saw six cords of dry hickory wood at 75 cents per cord, which I did mornings and evenings before and after school in 1857. I shucked corn at 50 cents a day in 1858 and 1859. W. R. Carle bought ear corn and when he got a carload he would shell it out on a handsheller. I sat in a big box, picked the cobs out of it and he and another man carried it in tubs to the car.

In 1860 I was a newsboy, Wapella to Amboy, for two months on passenger trains run by R. S. Condon, Gilroy Flinch and William Wamsley. I went to Chicago and worked for the American Sunday School Union as a newsboy, Chicago to Centralia, with Conductor Robert Vaile. I was transferred by O. & M. Railroad, St. Louis, Mo., to Vincennes, Indiana. In those days we had to keep water in barrel filled with ice and carry it through the train for passengers. I had saved up $107 all in dollar gold coins. I took a trip to Cairo and Quincy, Ill., and spent it all but one dollar which I still have. In September, 1862, I enlisted in Company 4, 107th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as a Corporal. Shortly after that I got down with rheumatism and was sent back to Louisville, Ky. I could not walk and was discharged.

After getting well I made three trips to Springfield to reenlist. They would not take me back in the army while in the service. I sent my money home to my mother. She kept it for me, in all $52. With this I started in the grocery business in Wapella, purchasing my stock of John McMelon and J. F. Humphreys of Bloomington, going in debt for $60 worth more. I made a success of it and always met my bills promptly. In 1880 I started J. W. Karr in the undertaking business. In a short time he turned the stock back to me and I ran that in connection with my store for forty years.

Main Street Looking West From The Community High School

Scene After the Tornado April 19, 1927

In 1863 I became a member of the Long Point Christian Church and on October 30, 1864, was marired to Miss Nancy E. Swearingen. To this union were born four daughters and one son; our son and one daughter died in infancy. In 1875 the Christian Church was organized here. I served as an officer in it for thirty-one years. Have been an Odd Fellow for fifty years, filling all offices in the order in Forrest Lodge No. 225. October 30, 1914, my wife and myself celebrated our fiftieth wedding aniversary. We looked forward to 1924 which would have been our sixtieth anniversary, but she passed away April 25, 1923.

In 1869 my wife was taken violently sick on Sunday, May 23. The roads were bad and I started that afternoon for what was known as Buck's Road Crossing three miles north of Wapella for my wife's mother. When half a mile north of what was the Long Point tank I came to a blind culvert on the railroad. It had rained so much that it had caved in. I stood there for a short time, wondering whether to go on or go back to Wapella or stay there and flag a freight train that was soon due to pass. I returned to Wapella to inform Mr. Perce the agent. I had two and one-half miles to go, so I started back, running and walking as fast as I could go. C. H. Gordinier, the conductor, had come up to Frank Wise, the engineer, with train orders. I told Mr. Wise and Gordinier about the condition of the culvert. The engine No. 140, was one of the large engines at that time and the rails were the old style rails with chairs at the end. The rails met in the center of the culvert and they were washed away. Had the engineer not been notified there would have been a bad wreck, for the engine would have run head first and the cars would have piled up, and no doubt some of the men would have been killed. I did not lose any time in getting back to inform the crew.

I used to know every engine and all the conductors and engineers between Amboy and Centralia. I have traveled on many railroads in the last twenty years, but I must say that the Illinois Central System is one of the best for track and cars.

(Copied from Illinois Central Magazine)

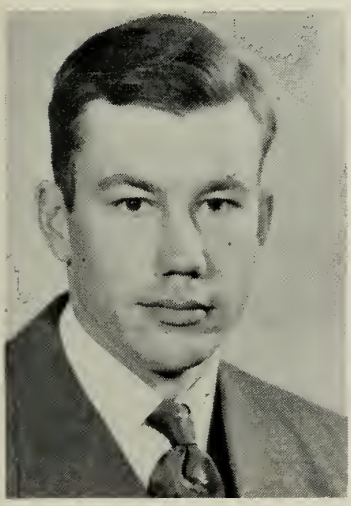
Mr. Metz married Nancy Elvira Swearingen, the daughter of Elijah and Mary Summers Swearingen. They were the parents of three daughters, Mrs. John Bryant, Mrs. T. J. Willis, and Miss Jessie Metz. Mr. and Mrs. Metz and their daughters are now deceased.

CENTENNAL WELCOME AND GREETINGS

Welcome and hearty greeting to all. There are none now living who know the conditions under which the Village of Wapella was settled a century ago. Some can call to mind the primitive conditions surrounding the village 80 years or more ago. The village has progressed slowly until it has reached its present status. We are proud to celebrate its 100th Anniversary at this time. Each and everyone should consider it a high honor to be able to take a part in this celebration.

May we cherish the memory of this event as long as we live. May we hope that as time goes on, Wapella and the surrounding community grow materially, mentally, and spiritually. May those who live in the next century look back on the record of the first Centennial with pride and reverence.

Respectfully,
Oscar B. Park, Village President



CENTENNIAL GREETINGS FROM PAGEANT CHAIRMEN . . .

We are very proud to present at the Centennial the Pageant, "Heart of the Prairie." The scenes were written by local people with the able assistance of Dr. Schultz of Wesleyan. We have endeavored to tell the story of Wapella in a realistic and authentic way as possible. Don't miss seeing it! We think you will like it.

Ernest N. Thorpe, Mrs. L. Pierce, Chairmen.

FRANK IVES RECALLS THE FOLLOWING MEMORIES . . .

Frank Ives has lived his entire life in the vicinity of Wapella, with 60 years of his existence spent in the town. He was born March 16, 1870, and was 9 years of age when the railroad shops were moved. All of the machinery was moved and most of the men employed moved to Clinton. He remarked that Sam Cely and Dennis Ryan, the blacksmith, remained in the village. Mr. Ryan's house was located near the elevator that is today managed by William Craig. Mr. Ives remembers seeing the first train going south from Amboy. Other names that he recalls are George Snow, the engineer on the first train, his home was where William Graham lives at present; Seth Battle, an engineer that lived at the Hotel; and George Johnson and Tim Bailey, other engineers. Some of the ~~cond~~uctors were: Bill Wamsley, Gilbert Williams, Tom Wright, and George Morgan. Samuel Y. Perce was the first man to be stationed in the Illinois Central Office in the town. The station was in the same location as it is today, but there was a large hotel there, too. A two story structure, the residence of the section foreman was located in the south part of Wapella, near the former stock yards, but this house was also moved when the shops left.

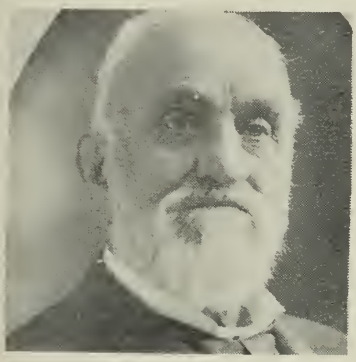
Gibson Coy the first settler, was also know by Mr. Ives. The Coy residence was located where the Dudley Summers family now live. Bridget Donnigan, wife of Philip, the second settler, was the first woman to come to the village. Their home was located where George Peters lived in later years, the house has since been torn down. The lumber for the Donnigan home was hauled from Peoria.

Mr. Ives knew the first merchant to locate here, Andrew Jackson Foster. John D. Metz, grandfather of Mr. Ives, was also a merchant in the early days, about 1855. George Humes was the first supervisor of the township and chairman of the board.

In looking back over the years, Mr. Ives has recalled many memories of the past. The names of some he has mentioned, may be remembered by some of our readers. Mr. Ives still continues to live in Wapella.

W. R. CARLE

William Ray Carle was one of Wapella's most prominent early citizens. He was born on March 24, 1832 in Brooke County, West Virginia. He came to Bloomington at the age of 21 where he taught school for three years at a salary of thirty dollars a month.



In 1857 Mr. Carle entered the grain business and bought a warehouse in Bloomington. He lost all of this by fire not long afterwards. Early in 1859, he moved to Clinton and entered a grain business with Sabin Taylor. In July of the same year he came to Wapellla and worked for $1.25 per day. Two months later he borrowed $100 and formed a grain partnership with a Mr. Dixon. He continued in this enterprise until 1862 when he sold out to E. Kent & Co. of Clinton and went into the mercantile business. He continued in dry goods until 1865 when he again entered the grain business combining it with lumber. This partnership was with E. B. Harrold.

In 1870, Mr. Carle was elected a member of the 27th General Assembly and proved to be an able legislator. He was an impressive figure, 6 feet 4 inches tall. He was elected president of the Clinton National Bank about this same time and served for three years.

Politically, Mr. Carle was an outspoken Democrat. He was a member of the Wapella Christian Church. By his own exertion, his native ability, integrity of character and rare social qualities, he acquired an enviable position in the community and much property. He died in August 1912 and was buried in West Virginia.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Wapella Christian Church was organized on January 24, 1867, by Elder George Owens of Jacksonville, Illinois. Prior to this the 27 charter members worshipped at Long Point Christian Church, 4 miles northeast of Wapella, and secured a general letter from that congregation granting them permission to organize in the village of Wapella. The first Elders were Joshua Carle, A. D. Metz, William Crum, and James W. Karr. George Owens served as the first Minister.

The first few meetings were held in the M. E. Church, after which the school house was used as a meeting place. A Sunday School was organized on April 7, 1867.

The congregation built a church costing approximately $2100 and dedicated it to the Service of the Lord in October, 1868. It was located on the north side of the present Christian Church Parsonage.

The present family names that appear in early records of the church are: Karr, Crum, Metz, Ives, Carle, Hubbell, Davis, Swearingen, Rolofson, Ellis, Short, Hickman, Hume, Slayback, Reynolds, Turner, Thorpe and Wilson.

The foregoing information was found in an old church record book from a history written by A. D. Metz, and read to the congregation on January 24, 1897 in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the organization of the church.

The present parsonage was built in 1924. The original church building was torn down and the present one was dedicated on January 9, 1949.

The church records show that 1062 names have been added to the church role since its organization. Existing records show that the average attendance varied from 30 to 70 up until recent years. A series of ministers from Lincoln Bible Institute starting with the Reverends J. T. Seagroves and B. E. Junkins and continuing through to John Pierce, the present minister, has resulted in a religious revival in the church. The average Sunday School attendance in 1949 was 80 and it increased steadily to an average of 139 for the year ending June 1954. The church attendance has increased proportionately and is about the same as the Sunday School. At the present time there are six Elders and seven Deacons on the two boards. The school has a total of 27 teachers and officers.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Patrick's parish was founded in 1853, and the first Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Bernard O'Hara in the Philip Donnigan home. Wapella was attended in the early years by priests from Bloomington, and it was not until 1857 that the first church building at a cost of $2,300, and parish house were erected and dedicated to St. Patrick.

The first resident priest was the Rev. Wendelin J. Revis, who came in the year of 1873. The parish continued to expand during the pastorates of the priests who succeeded him, and in 1882 the cornerstone of the second church was laid while the Rev. Henry P. Delbaere was pastor.

Twenty-seven years later, when the Rev. T. F. Monahan had charge of the parish, the church was enlarged, and the present brick edifice was rededicated December 14, 1909. Two years later a new rectory was built on the present location.

The priests who served pastorates since then are the Rev. E. M. Hayden, The Very Rev. F. E. Dunn, the Rev. Leo L. Henkel, the Rev. E. W. Flynn, and the Rev. F. B. Dickman. The present pastor, the Rev. Francis J. Cahill, after his return from the Navy as chaplain, was assigned to St. Patrick's in June 1946. Since then some of the improvements that have been made are a north entrance to the church, and the complete redecoration of the interior, with the symbols of the church featured in the art decoration on the walls. The predominate colors used were blue gray, rose and gold. The tapestry back of the altar has designs of IHC and XP and the cross, representing Christ as the center of the faith. The ceiling beams carry 55 small squares, each one containing a different symbol which date back to the 1600s. Also emphasized in general decoration theme are the Fifteen Mysteries of the Rosary.

The Rev. Francis J. Cahill, pastor, and the members of the St. Patrick's parish marked the 100th Jubilee last year by a Centennial Celebration on March 17, 1953. The Most Rev. William E. Cousins, D.D., Bishop of Peoria, and more than eighty priests from the Diocese attended the Solemn Mass in the church, and later a dinner in Greene's Hall. This was considered the largest celebration of priests to attend any services ever held in the parish.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

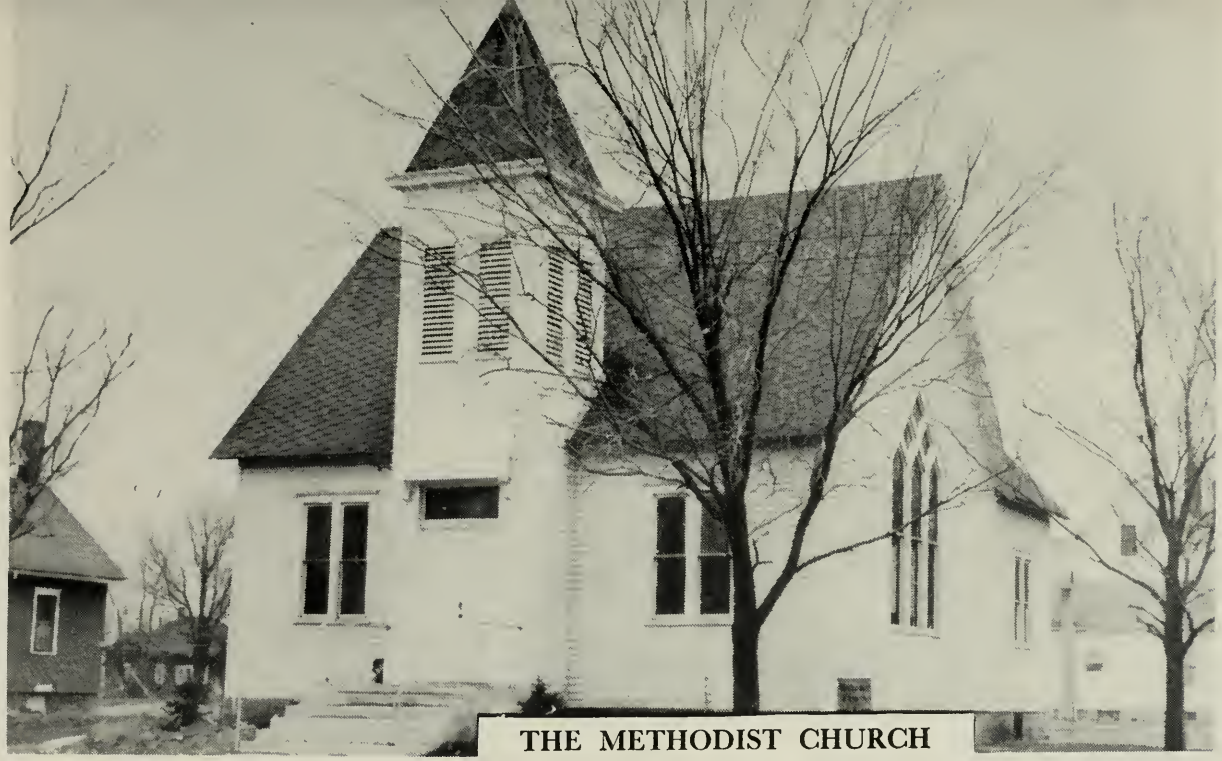
The first Methodist Church, a frame building 35'x45' was erected in Wapella at a cost of $1500, in the year of 1858. A cupola and bell was placed on this building at the time of construction. Some of the names of the first Methodists to locate in Wapella were Thomas Loar, James Stone, Henry Morrison, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Gates, Mr. Williams and H. A. Rucker.

In 1857 the Rev. J. A. Rucker was pastor followed by Rev. W. R. Howard in 1859 and Rev. W. E. Johnson in 1860 and 1861. Following this latter date this church was attached to the DeWitt Circuit with Rev. H. C. Hockenship as pastor.

The church was finished and dedicated by Rev. Hiram Buck in the year of 1863. Eighteen years later Wapella Methodist church was in the Champaign District. At this time they were re-established and Bell's Chapel and Long Point were attached. Rev. Tyndale was pastor then.

In 1891 the church was destroyed by a tornado which left just the organ and the floor of the building. A new structure was erected and dedicated by Rev. J. B. Pawson in 1893. On the adjoining lot there was a parsonage.

Ministers serving since then are Reverend J. B. Waso, A. J. Robertson, Royal Ennis, John L. Dixon, G. W. Randle, G. E. Burton, W. Johnson, J. H. Pense, F. C. Read, A. A. Heinline, J. Cisna, J. E. Reynolds, Olin Lee, R. L. Gibbs, J. W. Miller, A. N. Simmons, A. H. Dagley, A. G. Carmine, A. L. Simmons, G. M. Boswell, W. R. Hampton, Keith Loveless, R. L. Sprecklemeyer, E. P. Poore, Charles Smith, F. C. Traegerr, G. Heyworth, Paul Gribbons, J. A. Hubbell, and the present pastor Rev. Gene Downs.



THE METHODIST CHURCH

The Former Presbyterian Church Now the W. A. Graham & Son Garage

FORMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Presbyterian Church of Wapella was organized May 26, 1868. Some of the first charter members were John and Jane Potter, Homer, Mary and Martha Buck, Thomas, George and Lucinda, Hugh and Emeline Watson, Eli and Zavilda Cantrall, Joshua Hull, Nancy Hickle, Susanna Certwill, S. A. and Mary Longbrake, James Ellis, Ray Nelson, Mary Abbott, and Marcuda Hull. The building and lot cost about $4,000, and $7,000 was the amount paid for the pastor's salary and for other church purposes. The following ministers served as pastors: Samuel Stevenson, A. L. Knox, W. L. Rabbe, and W. W. Farris.

A Sabbath School was organized in the fall of 1871 and continued for about five years, but the members becoming few in number and living in the country, it was disbanded and united with other schools. The church was abandoned about 1876 and bought by Mr. Spafford and used for an opera house; then in turn was owned by A. A. Alexander, Frank Cunningham, and W. A. Graham. It was located on the lot across the street from the Kenneth Duncan residence, but was moved to its present location in 1908 by W. A. Graham, who now uses it for a garage. The Rev. Samuel Stephenson was the pastor that held the last church services in the Presbyterian Church.

FORMER WAPELLA GRADE AND HIGH SCHOOL

WAPELLA GRADE SCHOOL

SCHOOLS

Education has always been the foremost principle in the minds of the American people. Schools were established by the first settlers. These people realized that no nation could progress in a standard of civilization, without a good system of schools. The schools of Wapella today are held in high esteem, and represent the time and effort spent by many public spirited citizens of the community. The present board of education and those faithful citizens of past boards, have given much of their time to have adequate educational opportunities for the children of the community to further their education. Many of the teachers who taught in the schools of Wapella have made outstanding records in the field of education.

The first schoolhouse in the village was a small board building 16'x20' and situated in lot 5, block 7, corner of Locust and North First streets. It was erected in 1857 by Lewis Celeski and J. C. House was employed to teach the summer term. It was later used for a barbershop.

In 1868 at a cost of $7,000 for the lot, building, and furnishings, a new frame school was erected in the northeast part of the town. The first floor had two rooms, and a circular stairway led to another two rooms on the upper floor. In addition to the grades, a two-year high school course was available to the students attending. Most of them accepted the opportunity provided, by taking the two-year course with continuation of two more years in the Clinton High School.

On the same location, this building was replaced in 1913 by a two-story brick structure, which is the present Wapella Grade School. When first erected, there were four class rooms with office and storage space. In the year of 1951 at a cost of $22,000 the interior of the building was remodeled, and at the present time there are eight class rooms. A three-year high school course was offered to the students attending, until the formation of District No. 118.

In 1920, the Wapella Community High School was formed with the consent of the voters. District No. 118 was created according to the state law, and comprised Wapella Township and portions of Clintonia, Harp, and Wilson Land in the east part of town was purchased for the site from A. A. Spafford, Dennis Powers, and Miss Sarah Burke. Bonds totaling $95,000 were issued, and a brick structure was erected at a cost of $125,000. The treasurer of the funds was Mrs. Carrie V. Harrold, who has

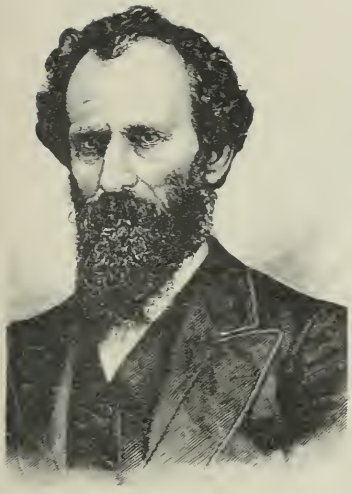
WAPELLA COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

been school treasurer since October 1917, up to the present time. Payment of the last bond issued, was completed on February 1, 1940. The members who served on the first board of education for this district were W. F. Stone, president; Harry Scott, clerk; Nelson Thorpe, C. E. Swearingen, and John O'Brien, board members. The last two named are now deceased. The first faculty for the High School was J. F. Dodson, principal; Calvin Wampler, Joy Cord, Margaret Sturgeon, and Helen Doty, with an enrollment of 73 students. The house formerly owned by Sarah Burke which the district bought, was the housing quarters for the principal until destroyed by fire Sunday, March 29, 1942.

On February 10, 1948, an election was held in the village, and the Wapella Community Unit District No. 5 was organized. This school district comprises an area of 72 sections, including the Village of Wapella, with an assessed valuation of approximately $11,000,000. It is composed of fifteen former school districts, Alexander, Liberty, Progress, Enterprise, Imperial, Cain, Heidelberg, Moorville, Wapella Grade, Harrold Point Brown, East Hull, Thorpe, Davenport, and that portion of Burr Oak which is in Wapella Township. These former districts had one room schools in the rural areas. When this unit system went into effect a contract was signed with Edmund Overmeyer of Clinton, to operate buses in Unit District No. 5, which would provide transportation for the students. Each year since then, this contract has been renewed.

Since there was no further need of these rural schools and they were all closed, a vote was taken to sell the buildings and land. In this first attempt the majority of the votes cast were against the proposition; however, in a later election held, the vote carried and the land, buildings, and furnishings were sold at auction.

On February 6, 1954, an election was held in the Village Hall, to vote on the propostion to purchase land and issue bonds in the amount of $375,000 for the construction of additions to the present High School and Grade School. The proposition carried with 539 resident voting by ballot. The construction on the additions will begin in 1954, Wapella's centennial year. The members on the board of education at present time are Carl Thorpe, Paul Ives, S. R. Johnson, Dale Chenoweth, Leo Greene, James Ryan, and Harry Bethel.



DR. T. W. DAVIS

MARY DAVIS

DR. T. W. DAVIS

Dr. T. W. Davis was born October 27, 1827, in Ohio, the son of John and Hannah Davis. He came to Illinois and located in Wapella in 1859. He worked on a farm until nineteen years of age, when he learned the blacksmith trade and followed that occupation until he entered the Medical College in Ohio. He graduated in 1857 from this College and practiced his profession in the state of Nevada before coming to Wapella. He was a member of the District and State Medical Societies.

On August 17, 1856 he married Mary Patterson, and they were the parents of three children, Hippocrates, Veselius, and Bursilia. Veselius became a doctor and practiced the profession in Wapella for 50 years.

Dr. T. W. Davis died on March 16, 1907, at his home in Wapella. Interment was in Sugar Grove Cemetery.

UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS LIBRARY

RESIDENCE OF J. W. KARR WAPELLA, DE WITT CO. ILL

RESIDENCE AND OFFICE OF DR T. W. DAVIS WAPELLA, DE WITT COUNTY, ILL.

Office of Doctors T. W. and V. Davis. Hotel P ıctured at Right

VILLAGE HALL ERECTED IN 1920

MRS. ELVA ELLIS
Wapella's Oldest Woman Resident

WILLIAM A. GRAHAM
Wapella's Oldest Business Man

MRS. ELVA ELLIS

Mrs. Elva Ellis, Wapella's oldest woman resident, was 90 years old on May 8, 1954. She was born north of Wapella in 1864 the daughter of R. S. and Armenda Turner Fletcher. She was married in 1885 to Alvin Ellis by Judge McGrath of Clinton. They were the parents of nine children, six of whom are still living - Mrs. Ivan Crum, Mrs. John Hall, Mrs. Alice Green, Lyman, Fletcher and Raymond Ellis. Mrs. Ellis makes her home in Wapella with Fletcher. She has 17 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

On her 90th birthday, Mrs. Ellis received greetings from the Governor.

WILLIAM A. GRAHAM

W. A. Graham is Wapella's oldest business man. He is 85 years of age and takes pride in carrying on his business routine daily. At the present time he operates a garage in the building that was once the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Graham was born on a farm 3 miles east of Waynes-

ville in October of 1868 and lived there until his maturity. He then went to Iowa and worked at farming for two years. He later returned to Illinois and continued this occupation until 1899.

He began his watch and clock repairing business in the southeast window of the A. D. Metz building which is now the home of the grocery of Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Park. In the Spring of 1901 he moved to the W. R. Carle building (Corner Cafe) and joined G. W. Givens in selling cultivators and hardware. Later Mr. Graham bought Mr. Given's interest and acquired a new partner, W. R. Carle, under the firm name of W. A. Graham and Company. They sold implements and hardware until 1906 when they dissolved partnership and sold out to B. E. Herington. Mr. Graham started a small stationery and jewelry business next, but in 1907 bought back the hardware business from Mr. Herington and continued there until 1911.

Mr. Graham sold the hardware business then and moved his implement and repairing business to his own building which he had moved from where it was built to its present site in 1908. In 1914 he started a garage in conjunction with his other business which he continued to operate. He was Postmaster from 1923-28 having the office in the garage.

Mr. Graham married Eunice Davis, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Veselius Davis, on October 23, 1907. She served as a State reporter for the Daily Pantagraph for 28 years, their only retired State reporter.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham were the parents of one son, Charles V. W., born December 19, 1908. Mrs. Graham passed away on November 28, 1951.

Among Mr. Graham's hobbies is a collection of license plates from 1910, about 25 clocks and ears of corn saved since 1903. He has served as village trustee, village president, town clerk, justice of the peace and school director of both grade and high schools.

JAMES M. GREENE

James M. Greene, the son of Timothy and Margaret Carr Greene, was born in Wapella, February 4, 1860. After attending the local schools he entered Notre Dame College at South Bend, Indiana, in 1874. Upon completion of his education he established a grocery and shoe store in Wapella. On August 10, 1884 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Jordan of Wapella.

Mr. Greene continued operation of his store until elected to the office of DeWitt County Clerk in 1890. His term of office was at the time of the erection of the present Court House in Clinton. He also served as supervisor of Wapella township for five years. In 1896 he entered the grain and lumber business and continued until later years when he disposed of the concern to J. C. Boyer. In 1906 he organized the Farmers & Merchants Bank in Wapella, where he was president with his two sons Francis T. as vice-president, and Thomas E., as cashier. After his retirement from the bank in 1938, he continued to reside in the town until his death on January 7, 1947. Mrs. Greene's death occurred in June, 1934.

Mr. and Mrs. James M. Greene were the parents of three children, Francis T., Thomas E., and the Rev. Vincent Greene, who was pastor of the Sacred Heart Parish in Farmer City until his death occurred on February 5, 1933.

Francis T. Greene married Miss Clara Lattimer of Wapella, and they are the parents of two children, Edward and Leo, who are now the operators of Greene's Service Station. At the present time Mr. Greene is vice-president of The DeWitt County National Bank in Clinton, but continues to live in Wapella.

Thomas E. Greene married Miss Veronica O'Connor of Chatsworth, and they are the parents of three children, Emmett of Peoria, James of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Vincent of Champaign. Mr. Greene continued in business in the Farmers & Merchants Bank until retirement when he moved to Bloomington, in 1951.

FORMER FARMER'S AND MERCHANTS BANK

Members of Village Board—Left to right: Robert Cisco, Irvin Rousey, Carl Troxel, Oscar Park, Charles Houchin, and Leslie Woollen. Robert Karr and Alfred Stone were not present when picture was taken.

GEORGE H. THORPE

George H. Thorpe will be remembered as a former business man and as cashier of the Wapella Bank. He was born in Wilson Township on November 9, 1862, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Holmes Thorpe.

When he was eleven years old, the family moved to a farm in Harp Township. His springs and summers were spent helping in the fields and in the winter months he attended the rural schools. Later, he studied at Evergreen City Business College in Bloomington, Illinois, and was graduated in 1884.
winter months he attended the rural schools. Later he studied at Evergreen City Business College in Bloomington, Illinois and was graduated in 1884.

That same year Mr. Thorpe entered the grocery business in Wapella and continued for 20 years, first as a partner with A. J. Latimer and later as owner, assisted By P. J. Burk and Tom Middleton. Prices were different in those days. A ledger containing inventories for 1896-1904 show that 12½c per yard for dress goods, $10 for a burial suit, 65c a pair for spectacles, 5c per pound for crackers and 7½c per pint for oysters were the current prices. Wages were also low.

On May 2, 1888, Mr. Thorpe married Anna M. Walker, a daughter of Robert and Sarah Walker. Their new home in Wapella was where the Christian Church is now located. They were the parents of seven children.

Mr. Thorpe together with George K. Ingham and Richard Snell organized the Wapella Bank January 1, 1899. The capital stock was $5000 with a surplus of the same amount. The stockholders were some of the well known citizens of the county. Upon the death of Mr. Ingham, George H. Thorpe bought out full control of the Wapella Bank and continued to operate it until 1920 when it was sold to the Farmers & Merchants Bank.

During the time Mr. Thorpe was bank cashier, he also supervised work on his farm in Harp Township. From 1912 to 1916 he was assisted by his oldest son, Dwight. When illness caused Dwight to retire Walker and Howard Thorpe helped their father with the farm. Mr. Thorpe also spent some time writing insurance. In October, 1916, the family moved to 302 W. Main Street, Clinton.

Mr. Thorpe was a faithful attendant of the Methodist Church and active until his 80th year. He died in March 1943.

P. J. BURKE

P. J. Burke was born in Wapella, and received his education in the public schools. He operated a grocery and general store in the George Thorpe building, and had a partnership with Thomas Middleton of Bloomington. After several years Mr. Middleton sold his interest to Mr. Burke who continued in the grocery business until his death occurred in 1932. Mr. Burke was united in marriage to Maude Lyons. She passed away in June of 1954.

THOMAS F. GREENE

Thomas F. Greene was born in Wapella, January 1, 1872, son of Timothy and Margaret Carr Greene. After attending the Wapella schools he entered Notre Dame College. Mr. Greene was a teacher in the rural schools of the county for a number of years. After completing his college course he entered the grocery business with his brother James. This partnership existed until his brother was elected to a county office, and Thomas had charge of the store. He was appointed postmaster under the Grover Cleveland Administration and the postoffice was in the grocery.

In 1899, Thomas F. Greene and Anita Holloway were united in marriage. They were the parents of six children, Paul, Francis, Margaret, Kenneth, Mary Anita, and Clement. The first two named and Mary Anita are now deceased.

After a term of years he formed a partnership with his brother John, and later they moved their stock of groceries to the building adjoining the Farmers and Merchants Bank. In 1914 he sold his interest in the store to John and was employed in Clinton until he purchased a confectionery and restaurant in Wapella from Herbert Lighthall.

A few years later he again received an appointment as postmaster with postoffice located in the same building it now occupies. He continued to operate the restaurant and postoffice in separate buildings until the death of his wife in 1922, when he placed both in the same building.

When a vacancy arose as rural mail carrier, Mr. Greene disposed of the restaurant and transferred from postmaster to rural carrier. He continued in this position until retirement in 1937, after having been in the government employ for thirty years. His death occurred on January 25, 1949.

PETER ABELL

Peter Abell started his blacksmith business in Wapella in April of 1906. In 1911 he went to work for the Illinois Central Railroad and continued on until 1922. At that time he resumed the blacksmith trade in his shop which he operated until he retired from the business on February 21, 1952 - a period of thirty years. He has served on the High School board for twelve years and as Village Trustee.

Mr. Abell recalls a Halloween in about 1910 when George Lighthall operated a hardware store in Wapella. Pranksters hoisted six buggies on top of the building.

JOHN J. ROLOFSON

Another early resident of DeWitt County who was prominent in the history of Wapella was John J. Rolofson. He was born in Wilson Township, October 1, 1862, the son of John B. and Mary Bird Rolofson, and one of six children.

John J. Rolofson spent his early childhood on the home farm helping with the field work in the spring and summer months while in the winter months he attended the district schools. In 1884 he began to farm for himself in Wapella township, operating rented land for six years. In 1890 he came to Wapella and opened a hardware store, also handling farm implements. Mr. Rolofson built up an extensive trade, his annual sales amounting to as much as twenty thousand dollars a year.

In connection with his business interests he also bought and sold horses conducted livestock sales and became an auctioneer. In this last connection, Mr. Rolofson gained quite a reputation for himself.

During the administration of President McKinley, on the 30th of June, 1897, Mr. Rolofson was appointed postmaster of Wapella. He married Miss Effie M. Wilson on February 27, 1884. They were the parents of two sons of whom, William, died in childhood. The other son, John J., was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1908.

After the death of his first wife he married Miss Bertha Herington. Mr. Rolofson passed away in November, 1923, and his wife Bertha died April 7, 1947.

JOHN B. JONES, M. D.

Dr. John B. Jones located in Wapella in 1906 and enjoyed a successful career in the practice of medicine.

He was born on a farm near Waynesville, DeWitt County, On March 31, 1877, a son of Charles W. and Sarah (Vincent) Jones and one of five children.

John B. Jones attended the Fairview school and Waynesville Academy and the medical department of the University of Illinois, being graduated in the Class of 1905.

Dr. Jones located first in Waynesville but after a short time, on the 4th of January, 1906, he came to Wapella to make his permanent home. Dr. Jones married Miss Florence Mabel Wright of Beatrice, Nebraska. They were the parents of three boys, John of Houston, Texas; Charles and Clyde of Los Angeles, California.

Dr. Jones spent all of this time in Wapella, except 11 years in California, and a short term in Waynesville. His death occurred on May 2, 1949. His wife still resides in Wapella.

OTIS WOOLLEN

The building now occupied by Otis Woollen was formerly a Hardware Store. A. E. Mouser and son Homer purchased the Hardware and Implement business from William A. Graham in August, 1911. This partnership existed until January, 1918 when the elder Mr. Mouser purchased the interest in the store owned by his son. He continued operating the store until his death occurred in January, 1931.

In the summer of the same year, Bert Summers purchased the hardware store and continued in the business until he disposed of it to Roger Brewer of Chicago in 1939. Mr. Brewer continued with the store and also established a funeral home while he was in Wapella. In 1941 he closed the store and funeral home and returned to Chicago.

Otis Woollen now uses the building for a store room for the equipment in his business, which is drilling wells. Jesse Stone is the owner of the building. Samuel Woollen first entered the well drilling occupation with his sons Henry and Otis. After the father's death the sons continued with the work. Later Henry died and Otis is the operator of the business at present. The Woollens have always had a large trade.

WAPELLA BAND. Picture Taken About 1904.

JOHN T. GREENE

John T. Greene was born in Wapella, Illinois on May 12, 1874, the youngest of eight children born to Timothy and Margaret Carr Greene. He attended elementary school in Wapella. He attended Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana and was graduated from there.

When Mr. Greene returned to Wapella, he became a clerk in the office of his oldest brother, James M. Greene, County Clerk, located in the old DeWitt County Court House. Later he was a dry-goods clerk in the J. F. Miller store located where Eisner's Grocery is in Clinton today. About a year later, Mr. Greene accepted a position as bill clerk in the Oberkoetter Wholesale House in Bloomington, Illinois.

After a few years Mr. Greene entered the grocery and general merchandise business with his brother, Thos. F. Greene. Meanwhile he had learned telegraphy and had his desk in the store, acting as operator for the Postal Telegraph Company. He also bought and sold livestock in partnership with Mr. Frank Crum.

Mr. Greene served his community in various ways. He was clerk, tax collector and supervisor, chairman of the board of supervisor's when the present DeWitt County Joil was built. When the new "Greene Bldg." was erected on the Main Street of Wapella, John T. and Thos. F., moved their stock to that location and continued on for a number of years until John T. Greene bought out his brother's interest and kept on until the summer of 1929 when he sold out to Mr. F. Naggy of Divernon, Illinois.

For eight years Mr. Greene was field agent in Champaign, Piatt and DeWitt County (excepting Clinton) of the Oil Inspection Division of the state.

Mr. Greene married Miss Edna Hills of Clinton on October 26, 1898 and went to housekeeping in the house now the home of the Lloyd Hill family. Six or seven years later the old Methodist parsonage was sold by sealed bids and Mr. Greene was the lucky purchaser. Later Mr. and Mrs. Greene built another house, the present home of the Glenn Vandervoorts. In August 1948, the Greenes moved to an apartment in Clinton where they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on October 26, 1948. They are the parents of six children - Helen and John dying in infancy, the living - Nile, now Mrs. Nolan D. Gentry; Nova, now Mrs. Russell Delaney; Cletus J. and J. T.

Mr. John T. Greene died on January 1, 1953. He was a lifelong member of the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Wapella.

Wapella Community Recreation Club

The Wapella Community Recreation Club, an organization to promote recreational possibilities for the residents of Wapella and the surrounding area, was formed by Virgil W. Gibson in 1950.

The first board of directors was made up of Mr. Gibson, Lloyd Bell, James Ryan, Fletcher Ellis, Robert Cisco and Howard Hedrick.

Fifteen hundred dollars, obtained through a house to house canvass made possible the erection of lights on the ball field. Eight teams formed a softball league and games were played Monday through Friday nights that first summer. The organization continues to carry on, paying its own way through donations given at the games.

WAPELLA LODGE A. F. & A. M.

Wapella Lodge No. 606 A. F. & A. M. was granted a charter by the Grand Lodge of Illinois on October 6, 1868 and surrendered the charter May 26, 1874. Edward Swift served as worshipful master while the lodge worked under dispensation in the years 1868 - 1869, in 1870 and again in 1873. William D. Catterlin served in 1872. Others to serve were M. W. Copeland, Seward C. Nelson.

Other organizations that once existed in Wapella were INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS, REBEKAHS, MODERN WOODMAN OF AMERICA and UNITED AMERICAN MECHANICS.

(Items from The Wapella Independent)
Feb. 18, 1884

I.O.O.F. FORREST LODGE, No. 25 meets at Odd Fellows Hall every Saturday night. T. Foster, N. G. James Crum, Sec.

G.A.R. SEWARD NELSON POST, No. 251, meets the first and third Friday nights of each month. J. H. Potter, Com. J. L. Barrack, Adj.

THOMAS J. WILLIS

Thomas J. Willis was born February 3, 1866 in Wapella, the son of Frank M. and Millicent Ann Willis. He received his education in the Wapella schools. He married Lou Alma Metz in Bloomington, on March 22, 1888. They were the parents of three children, Dr. Fred Willis, Mrs. Hazel Lutz, and Dr. V. E. Willis. The latter lives in Clinton and has an office there.

Before going into business for himself, Mr. Willis was employed by the Coy Grocery in Wapella and by Edward Jones. Later he became affiliated in business with A. D. Metz, his father-in-law, until he became owner of the grocery, where he continued until May, 1926.

Mr. Willis was active in the community, having served as a member on the school board, on the village board, and on the DeWitt County Board of school trustees. Mr. Willis has since died.

VIRGIL GOODLICK

In the early days a livery and feed barn was a necessity in the town. Some of the people who operated the livery stable were Frank Seniff, Joseph McGrath, Harvey Brock, and Walter Bishop. After the automobile came to the country, the livery barn was not needed, so it was torn down and a new brick building was erected in 1920 by James Downing. Donald and Glenn Canaday established a garage and repair shop in the building. Several years later Glenn sold his interest to his brother who continued with the business until 1930 when he moved ed to a new location on Route 51. After Mr. Canaday vacated the Downing building, Kiley Brothers established a garage there for a short time. A few years after they discontinued business, Meno Mastin purchased the building and operated an implement store, selling the John Deere machinery. Later his son-in-law Abner Phares entered the business as a partner. They continued until moving to Clinton.

Virgil Gibson had a hardware store in the building until his business expanded and he moved to a new location, a place he recently built. Virgil Goodlick now occupies the building with his repair and welding shop. Mr. Goodlick has built up an extensive trade in this length of time, being an experienced mechanic with the John Deere machinery. He is married and has one child and they reside in Wapella.

HASENWINKLE - WALLACE GRAIN CO.

William L. Craig has been manager of the Hasenwinkle-Wallace Grain Company in Wapella for 25 years. He was born May 30, 1901, the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Craig. His mother is now deceased. On July 3, 1932, Mr. Craig married Ruth Nichols at Rock Island. They are the parents of one son, James, who is a student at Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois.

The company started in business in the year of 1924, at Wapella. At present they have under construction an addition to the elevator, which will hold 20,000 bushels of grain. When this is completed the capacity of the elevator will be 100,000 bushels. The building of this addition is evidence they have faith in the future of Wapella.

GREENE'S SERVICE STATION

In 1926, John Heneberry of Decatur built an oil station and bulk plant on the east side of Route 51 in Wapella. He operated this station selling Texaco products until 1928, when the Conoco Oil Company purchased the station and employed Edward M. Greene as manager. In 1935 Mr. Greene erected an oil station on the west side of the highway, and sold Texaco products. In a few years the Conoco Oil Company sold their station and bulk plant to Mr. Greene and today it is used for an office.

After Leo Greene returned from the Navy, he entered the business with his brother, and at the present the station is known as Greene's Service Station, that sells the Phillips 66 Products.

Leo Greene married Evelyn Walsh and they are the parents of one boy, Richard. Edward Greene resides with his parents.

WAPELLA COB COMPANY

The Wapella Cob Company, a relatively new enterprise, began operation in 1950. Cobs are hauled to the quarry from corn shelling at various farms and are blown into boxcars. They are shipped to factories equipped to process them into chemicals used in the manufacture of nylon, synthetic rubber and fertilizer.

M. C. Mearida operates this business.

RAY HOUCHIN

Ray Houchin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Houchin, was born on April 18, 1919 in Wapella and attended schools here. After graduation from Wapella High School, he worked for a length of time at Greene's Service Station. A few years later he leased an Oil Station in Bloomington which he operated until disposal to go into the insurance business.

After his discharge from the Army, having served 42 months in the Infantry, Mr. Houchin established a grocery and appliance store in 1946, which is known as The Houchin Super Market. This market is located in the Greene building adjoining the former Farmers & Merchants Bank.

On March 7, 1942, Ray Houchin and LaVern Christner were united in marriage at Kahoka, Missouri. Mr. Houchin continued in the grocery business until September, 1952, when he began working for the Illinois Central Railroad, and Mrs. Houchin took charge of the store. The Houchins were the first merchants to sell television in Wapella and they have a flourishing business today.

DELANEY GRAIN & LUMBER COMPANY

What is today the Delaney Grain and Lumber Company was started in Wapella in August of 1881 by Carle and Butterworth. The large brick building located west of the tracks was one of the largest grain houses in the surrounding country. It had been formerly used by the Illinois Central as one of their car shops. It could hold large quantities of grain.

Carle and Butterworth were suceeded by J. M. Greene who carried on the grain business from 1896 to 1920. He sold out to J. C. Boyer. In September of 1922 the business was purchased by the Delaneys.

Lawrence Delaney and his sons, Russell and Leo, and daughter, Miss Jeanie, formed the company for many years. Leo Delaney died in 1944. Mr. Lawrence Delaney moved to Clinton in 1926 and has lived there ever since. He was 89 years old on June 1, 1954.

The present elevator and office building was erected in 1914.

Russell Delaney, manager of the grain company married Nova Greene, and they are the parents of two sons, John Lawrence and Russell.

O. B. PARK

O. B. Park was born at Laomi, Illinois on January 6, 1885. His family moved to Lincoln where he grew up. He married Kate Hairing at Mackinaw where he was teaching on March 10, 1918. They moved to Wichita, Kansas, where Mr. Park taught at Fairmont College for two years. Later he taught at Mason City, Illinois and served as principal in Optyka, Illinois. Sometime after Mr. Park and wife came to Wapella where they purchased their grocery from T. J. Willis in May of 1926 and Mr. Park taught in the DeWitt county school until retirement.

The store became the Wapella Post Office in August 1929 and remained so until 14 years later. Mr. Park has served as elder in the Wapella Christian Church for over 18 years, was notary public for 9 years and has served as mayor or president of the Board of Trustees since 1953. The Parks have one son, Earl, who is in government employ in Washington, D. C.

TROXEL BROTHERS

Joe and Jay Troxel, twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Troxel were born on July 18, 1899, and they grew up west of Wapella. When Joe was 21 he married Buelah Laiser and when Jay was 20 he married Nellie Crum.

What is today the Troxel Grocery was first started by George Thorpe, in November 1884. It was then a grocery general merchandise, boot and shoe store. Mr. Thorp trained P. J. Burke in the business and turned it over to him in 1892. Joe Troxel began to work for Mr. Burke in 1920 and continued on after Mr. Burke's death in 1932.

Jay Troxel worked for the Illinois Central Railroad for 19 years prior to joining his brother in a partnership in the store in May 1926. He was a boilermaker for the railroad. During their years in Wapella, Jay Troxel has served on the village board about 10 years, grade school board for about 6 years and township clerk for 8 years. Joe Troxel has served on the high school board for 12 years and as township clerk for 9 years.

The Troxel business continues to grow and the Troxel brothers have a large stock of merchandise available.

JOHN MILLER

In 1941, John Miller entered the restaurant business at the former Carle building in Wapella, which is now the location of the Corner Cafe. He continued for six years, when he disposed of the business and began working for Greene's Service Station, until 1951. Then Mr. Miller was employed by C. D. Rutherford at the Shell Oil Station in Clinton until June, 1953. In December of that year he again entered his former profession, and purchased a cafe from Donald Good, which is located on the south side of the business section. At one time this building housed a confectionery by George Miller, A Billiard Hall by G. D. Grey, and in later years a Beauty Shop. Mrs. Winnie Rolofson, F. C. Ellis, Mrs. Elizabeth Laiser, Fred Bray, M. K. Clark, and Donald Good have each had restaurants in this same location.

ROLLIN HARTMAN

Rollin Hartman was born in 1905, the son of James and Viola Hartman. He has lived his entire life in the county. In 1927 he moved from Clinton and built a garage located on the south edge of the villeg on Route 51. He has operated this garage and repair shop, known as Hartman's Garage, since then. After a short time he erected a house with location north of his place of business. His wife is the former Vonna Bone of Rankin.

Mr. Hartman has always taken an active interest in the community, and today the garage is a growing business.

D. A. CANADAY

D. A. Canaday was born in Ellsworth, Illinois, on July 12, 1895. He attended Ellsworth schools until he left home at the age of fourteen to make his own way. After working for Gay Miller of Ellsworth, he attended an automobile school in Chicago and later, ran a partnership garage in Covell until 1917.

Mr. Canaday was drafted March 5, 1918 and served until March 8, 1919. In April he came to Wapella and operated a garage in the Woollen building. He moved to the Mastin building in 1921 and in 1929 began construction of his present building, a block structure located on Route 51 at the north edge of Wapella. He married Miss Josie Hickle November 22, 1941.

Mr. Canaday served as township supervisor for eight years.

Citizens of Wapella in Their Centennial Costumes

VIRGIL W. GIBSON

Virgil W. Gibson, son of R. L. and Stella Gibson, was born July 17, 1918 in Spencer, Iowa. He attended school in Clinton and was graduated from Clinton Community High School.

On September 12 ,1941 Mr. Gibson married Anita Ives, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. True Ives of Wapella. They have two daughters, Jane Ann, 8, and Candi Jo, 4.

In 1948, Virgil Gibson purchased the Mastin Hardware Company from M. C. Mastin and operated it in the Mastin building for 5 years. In the spring of 1953, Mr. Gibson needed more space. He formed a corporation with his father, R. L. Gibson, and William Moberly and called it the Gibson Building and Supply Company. They erected a 60'x64' quonset type building on the railroad lot west of Troxel's store. The Gibson Hardware Company has been expanded until now every sort of hardware supply is available from the kitchen sink to a prefabricated house.

vention in New Orleans in 1938.

Wapella Unit received the silver trophy for outstanding achievement in the County for 1937, 1940, 1942 thus earning the right to keep it in their possession permanently.

In the three Cook Books which have been published by the County Home Bureau, Wapella Unit members have always contributed more than their share of favorite recipes.

The following are the women who have served as chairmen of the Unit throughout the years 1936-1954. Mrs. Gerald Brown, Mrs. Cora Ives, Mrs. Leo Walsh, Mrs. Asa Arthington, Mrs. Carrie Harrold, Mrs. Scott Funkhouser, Mrs. M. C. Thomas, Mrs. Paul Ives, Mrs. Dan Hanley.

The present officers are Mrs. Glenn Vandervoort, chairman; Mrs. Glenn Riddle, vice-chairman; Mrs. John Pierce, secretary and Mrs. Earl Short, treasurer. The unit is composed of 37 members and meets the first Thursday of each month in the Wapella Christian Church. Miss Mary Dawson is the present Home Adviser.

WILSON HOME BUREAU

The Wilson Unit of DeWitt County Home Bureau was organized in November 1935 with nine members. The first meeting was held in the home of Mrs. J. D. Cooper. She was selected as chairman and Miss Kate Hickman was chosen secretary - treasurer. Miss Mabel Ann Bushnell was the first Home Adviser to work with the group.

The Wilson Unit has been a very active and successful organization, taking advantage of the many projects offered by the Extension Service of the University of Illinois.

There are now 19 members. The Unit has sponsored a 4-H Club for many years with Mrs. Cooper as leader. 4-H leaders for the current year are Mrs. Ralph Nowlin and Mrs. Lloyd Hickman. The officers for 1954 are: Mrs. Ralph Nowlin, chairman; Miss Mary Keating, vice-chairman; Mrs. J. D. Cooper, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Arthur Holsbach, director. Miss Mary Dawson is the present Home Adviser. Unit chairmen include:

Health—Mrs. D. Griffith.
Hostess—Mrs. Clayton Cusey.
Program—Mrs. Willard Wilson.
Recreation—Miss Katherine Keating.
4-H—Mrs. J. D. Cooper.
Publicity—Mrs. Leonard Medler.
Music—Miss Kate Hickman.

THE WEATHER

The summer of 1854 was long remembered as the dry season. Some of the creeks went entirely dry, wells dried up, water was purchased by many people, and at one time it looked as if some of the cities would not be able to have a water supply. People traveling through the country often suffered with their teams before they could obtain water, and cattle ran over the prairies, rushing to the streams that were not exhausted. Some of the people thought of artesian wells, and efforts were made in that direction, but none of them were developed.

January 9, 1856, was a remarkably cold day, the thermometer registered 28 degrees below zero. There were several intensely cold days during the winter, some of them having followed soon after warm weather, and thus causing the death of apple and peach trees all through the country.

The summer of 1858 was a very wet season, nearly as bad as in 1844, when it rained nearly all summer, only ceasing late in August. The crops in these years suffered very much as wheat and corn were both injured. Wheat was killed the previous winter, and at that time the farmers, induced by the high prices were all raising winter wheat. Great financial distress was caused by the unfavorable yield of the crops.

On June 7, 1859, the weather became so cold that ice formed one-eighth of an inch thick. The frost and ice wilted all the corn to the ground and killed the young leaves on hickory and other forest trees. The corn crop was thought to be ruined, but fortunately the weather was so favorable, that the corn planted late matured. The early corn that was six inches high was all ruined, but some of it that was only two inches high came up from the roots again. The corn that was left to grow up from the roots the second time made a much better crop than that which was planted, and the result was there was a fair crop.

This brief history taken from the records, of the climate conditions in the early part of the century, will give you an idea of the rainfall and temperatures experienced then.

THE WARS

Wapella, the township, and this area have done their share in the wars that have existed at different time in the past century.

In 1861, we had the Civil War in the United States. On Friday, April 19, 1861, a public meeting was held at the court house in the County to respond to the call of Governor Yates for volunteers under President Lincoln's proclamation for seventy-five thousand men. The crowd that came to the meeting was too large to occupy the court room, and they adjourned to the square for the meeting. All the men were eager to volunteer, and in a short time the company was filled. However, it was not until May 10, that this group went into camp at Camp Goodell in Joilet. This war did not cease until 1865.

In 1898 there was the Spanish-American War, and some of the men from Wapella entered the army at that time. The war only lasted a short time.

On April 8, 1917, the United States declared war against Germany. Many of the young men enlisted and were drafted for the Army and Navy. On June 15, 1918, a group of 125 men left the county for Camp Taylor, Kentucky. A number of men from Wapella and this area were in this group. A day of rejoicing was held, when on November 11, 1918, the news came to everyone that the war had ended.

It will long be remembered by everyone when the news was flashed over the air on Sunday, December 7, 1941, that Pearl Harbor had been attacked by the Japanese. On December 8, 1941, war was officially declared. The war continued for more than 4 years, and on May 7, 1945 the headlines in the papers read, War In Europe Ended. The war with Japan ceased on August 14 of the same year. Services were held in the churches, and prayers of thanksgiving were said that the fighting had ceased. This was a long hard-fought war, and the result was there were many casualties.

Still another date that will long be remembered is June, 1950, when the Korean Conflict arose. Many of the young boys that had just finished high school met this emergency by entering the service and going to Korea. This fighting did not stop

until July, 1953, but there was not a unified peace. For the first time in 20 years, at the present time, August, 1954, there is not any war in the world.

To the men that served their Country in time of war and gave the best years of their life that we might have a more safe and better world to live in, we owe a debt of gratitude, and will be forever grateful. They endured the hardships and terrors of war that we might live in peace.

The airplane that came to the country was a great factor in bringing peace to the world. It played a very important part in the last three wars, and many of the boys who served their Country and became pilots, have continued on after their discharge from the service. Claude W. Thorpe and Sons have an airport on their farm located in this area, and have planes for their own use.

WATER TOWER

Albert Summers Riding Antique Bicycle Owned by Grandfather

CENTENNIAL GREETINGS FROM THE EDITOR

The privilege granted to me of serving as editor of the Souvenir Booklet of the Wapella Centennial will always be remembered with great pleasure. The time spent in research, interviewing and writing has come to a close. I wish to extend my heartful thanks and deepest appreciation to the general chairman, co-editor, other members of the booklet committee, the advertising committee, and all the members working with the Centennial. Also all of the people who have furnished the pictures and gave any information which made it possible to compile the history.

I and the members of the Centennial Corporation thank most cordially the advertisers who have made the publication of this booklet possible, and trust that our readers will patronize them.

The biographies that appear that are not quite complete are due to lack of insufficient history. Others that are omitted are because no information was available.

Please accept my apology for any errors, omissions, and oversight, as it is a difficult task to compile a complete Historical Record without some omissions.

Faithfully yours,

Katherine Keating, Editor.

Other Merchants Of The Early Days And Later

General Merchandise—A. J. Latimer, C. C. Smith, S. E. Coy.

Groceries and Provisions—E. F. Turner J. C. Naggy, Frank Hall, Thornton Herington, Francis Greene.

Druggists—F. E. Harpster, Dr. Veselius Davis, T. W. Davis, Joseph Lyons.

Confectioneries—J. H. Lighthall, Herbert Lighthall, George Lighthall, Lawrence McFadden, George Miller.

Millinery and Notions—Mrs. M. Gossard, Mrs. Shelby.

Dressmaker—Miss Ida Blossom, Miss Sarah Burke, Mrs. Ada Hoover, Mrs. Ronald Golden.

Meat Market—Clark & Bolin, Edward Hickman, George Shelby, Malcom Bros., Charles Houchin.

Barbers—E. F. Turner, Charles DeAtley.

Bakery—Mrs. Julia Comboy.

Carpenter and Wagon Makers—W. A. Hickman, A. C. Karr and Sons.

Contractor and Builder—James W. Karr, John Jordan, John Hurd, T. F. Keating, L. H. Williams, Charles Conley, Frank Ryan, Dudley Summers, Edward Summers, Charles Houchin, William VanAntwerp.

Plumbers—Jesse Stone.

Electricians—Kenneth Greene.

Plasters and Bricklayers—Robert Dunbar, James Alsop, Jacob Bell.

Weavers—Mrs. A. C. Karr, Mrs. Shelby, Mrs. F. C. Ellis.

Shoemaker—Thomas Foley.

Tailor—D. D. Dunseth.

Stock Dealers—J. K. Davis and Sons, Nicholas Foley, Roben Bros.

Coal Dealer—Joshua Carle, Delaney Grain Co., Hasenwinkle-Wallace Co.

Hotel—S. S. Cone, Mrs. Langdon, Mrs. Rebecca Jasper.

Beauty Shops—Twila Cook, Mrs. Greene and Mrs. Ives, Mrs. Coy Torbert, Mrs. Marvin Karr.

Poultry Buyer—R. B. Ross.

Taverns—Nonemans Roadside Inn—North End Tavern, operated by Lyden and Mary Austin—Earl Turner, Edwin Magoloski.

W.P.A. Library—Dorothy Borland, Librarian.
er Ellis, Wilbur Riddle, Charles Graham, Charles Swearingen.

Carle and Butterworth Warehouse—

E. Kent & Company Warehouse—

Corn and Grist Mill—A. A. Alexander.

Karr Tile Company—

The Wapella Independent

S. A. EDWARDS, Editor.

WAPELLA, ILLINOIS.

WAPELLA NEWS.

Howdy-do.

Mrs. M. Gossard is on the sick list.

Norman Nelson Sundayed at home.

The zephyrs sigh—the women's sigh.

T. M. Arthington was on the sick list the first of the week.

S. M. Thorpe returned from Texas last week.

Mr. Bert Cole spent Sunday in Bloomington.

Mrs. R. Nelson visited in Bloomington this week.

Dr. Y. Davis of Lathan, Ill., was in town Monday.

Mrs. G. W. Reed was in Bloomington Thursday.

Miss Florence Spafford spent Sunday in Bloomington.

Miss Lou Mott returned from Bloomington Saturday.

George Thomas of Bloomington was our town Thursday.

Miss Jennie Hutchinson has been quite sick with the chills and sore-throat.

Patrick Mannion who was so very sick this winter started to school Monday.

Mr. A. Ives of Kentucky, is visiting his sons Ora and Hick Ives, this week.

Misses Kate and Jennie Smith returned from a visit in Carbondale last week.

The comet has almost gone away, take a good look at it for you will never see it again.

The meetings at the M. E. Church are still in progress and are having very good success.

Miss Clara Converse of Clinton visited Mrs. James Butterworth a few hours last Saturday.

The young folks had a great time on Thursday. This office send forth its [illegible] thanks for the cabinets it [illegible]

Some one gave his opinion of what was the best way to remedy the liquor scourge in your paper last week, and the week before the statistics of the cost was given; but while we think that the the writers figures may be correct, but his conclusion that prohibitory laws of voting no licenses will not restrain the waste and ruin in the liquor traffic are altogether wrong. Nothing else but an OLDER PROHIBITION will do it. All other means have failed, and prohibition where ever tried has been successful. It would be as sensible to let the wolves go unkilled the mad dogs run free and expect the sheep to be unhalmed and people to be quiet as to allow and uphold saloons on every corner by license and expect the people to be un ort. Do away with the cause of the evil instead of looking after those that are injured. Absolute prohibition is the only sure remedy.

WILSON.

Charlie and Frank Harrison are expecting to go west soon.

George Mann returned from Kentucky Saturday and found one of his best cows very sick which died before the next morning.

Clint Newman has moved back from Clinton to the old homestead and will live with his brother the coming year.

Mrs. Aaron Wilson spent Sunday with Mrs. Wineman.

Tuesday evening was a holiday at the residence of W. W. Newman it being the fifth anniversary of their marriage. Before noon the house was filled with invited guests who enjoyed themselves in a social conversation dinner was announced which was eaten so quickly the supper too of Mr. Gardner who has had much experience in such matters. Then another season of social chat and suffice it to say the gathering throughout was a success. The following is a list of presents and the names of donors.

Beans

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Gardner.
Mr. and Mrs. T. V. Cole.
Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Cole.
Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Cole.

Small Dressing Case

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Thomas

NOTICE! NOTICE!!

Wishing to do justice to Myself and Patrons, I will upon the 1.ST OF MARCH NEXT sell goods Strictly for Cash or Trade. Hoping my Friends and Patrons will see the importance of the matter and Act accordingly, I expect to make it an object for you all to deal for Cash.

ON MARCH THE 1st NEXT, CASH will be my Motto---

Pay for what you get and good Payers will not have to pay fo the bad pay.

S. E. COY.

WAPELLA, ILL., FEB. 12th, 1884.

NEW! FRESH!

COMPLETE

STOCK OF

CONFECTIONETIES,

NUTS, CIGARS, &c.

Just received at

Clark & Son's

RESTAURANT.

Bolin & Mitchell

STEAM

THRESHERS AND SHELLERS

Hold themselves in readiness to attend a calls in their line of business, at CHEAPEST

THE WAPELLA INDEPENDENT, a newspaper published Feb. 16, 1884, with S. A. Edwards as editor. The subscription rate was $1.00 per year in advance, and the paper was published every Friday. Each church was listed in the Church Directory, and the pastors were the Rev. H. P. Delabaere of the St. Patrick's church; the Rev. A. M. Hutchinson of the Christian church; and the Rev. George W. Reed of the Methodist Episcopal church. Other names that appeared in the advertisements were Edward Norvell as Justice of Peace; Dr. J. H. Potter, Physician & Surgeon; S. E. Coy, General Merchandise; Bolin & Laborence, City Meat Market; Drug Store of F. L. Harpster; Bolin & Mitchell, Steam Threshers and Shellers; Clark & Son's Restaurant; A. A. & W. Alexander, Manufacturer of Corn Meal and Graham Flour; and O. & R. Wilson, Threshers and Shellers, who had just announced the purchase of a new sheller and new engine.—(This paper was given through the Courtesy of Mrs. Robert Doud, Carthage, Ill.)

THE INDEPENDENT.

Vol. 1, No. 46. WAPELLA, ILL., FEB. 16. 1884. $1.00 in Advanc

THE INDEPENDENT.

IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

Entered at the Post Office at Wapella Ill, as Second Class Mail Matter.

Subscription Rates

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" " " not in advance	1.50
One copy six months, in advance	60
" " " " not in advance	75
One copy three months, in advance	40
" " " " not in advance	50

Communications on all subjects pertaining to the public welfare respectfully solicited; but the editor does not expect to have his views expressed in communications admitted these columns.

☞ Correspondents will be held responsible for their communications.

☞ Nothing will be printed unless the writer's name is known to the editor.

Write as plain as possible, especially names of individuals, and only one side of the paper.

EDWARD NORVELL,

JUSTICE OF PEACE,

WAPELLA DeWitt county, ILLINOIS.

Attends to all kinds of collections, conveyancing, abstracts etc. Office Town Hall, 1st South St.

LODGE AND CHURCH DIRECTORY

I. O. O. F. FORREST LODGE, No. 255, Meets at Odd Fellows Hall every Saturday night. T. Foster, N. G. James Crum, Sec.

G. A. R. SEWARD NELSON POST. No. 251, Meets the first and third Friday nights of each month. J. H. Potter, Com. J. L. Barrack, Adj

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.—Services every Sunday at 11 o'clock a. m. and at 7 p. m. Sunday School, 9 a. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. A. M. Hutchinson, Pastor.

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH.—Services On Sundays and Holy days at 10 o'clock a. m. and the 1st Sunday in the month, at 9 a. m Catechistical instruction at 3 p. m. Daily morning service at 9 a. m H Delahaye, Pastor

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—A Wapella Preaching morning and evening and every alternate Sabbath. Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. A. Wilson-Pr lar every other Sunday at Bell's Chapel 11 o'clock a. m Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10. At Long Point-preaching at th , M. E Church every other Sunday at 3 P. M. Geo. W. Reed, Pastor.

ELECTRICITY.—Of all the known electro-Galvanic Appliances at the present day it is now conceded by the Medical Fraternity and Electrical class generally that the American Galvanic Co Bowand Belt is are the best, possessing finite ic Electrical merits, as one shield or appliance can be fitted to any part of the body, which is not true of any other. See advertisement in another column of this paper - Electric G. e Tb.

WAPELLA MARKET

Cattle	4 @	4¼
Hogs	4¾ @	4¾
Wheat	None	
Rye	45 @	50
Oats	26 @	30
Corn	25 @	30
Butter		15
Lard		7
Eggs		18
Chickens	(Alive)	5
Turkeys		8
Ducks		5
Geese		5
Rabbits	(dead)	40

JOB WORK NEATLY DONE

Railroad Time Table

ILLINOIS CENTRAL.

Main Line—Trains pass Wapella as follows

GOING NORTH.

	Leave.
3 Passenger and Mail	6.05 a m
4 Accomodation	5.30 p m
9 Freight	7.30 a m
18 Freight	1.00 p m

GOING SOUTH.

1 Passenger and mail	3.40 p m
* 8 Passenger	8.30 a m
11 Freight	7.30 a m
19 Freight	7.00 p m

Connecting with the SPRINGFIELD DIVISION—I. C. R. R. Trains pass Clinton, as follows:

GOING NORTHEAST.

3 Passenger and Mail	6.45 a m
5 Accommodation	3.50 p m

GOING SOUTHWEST.

1 Passenger and Mail	4.00 p m
4 Accomodation	9.35 a m

*Passengers going east from Clinton should verify agent at Wapella to hold trains at Clinton for this train.

E. J. CADDY, Agent.

EVERYBODY!

Our terms are cash. On and after this date we shall sell goods and do business on a strictly cash plan. Everybody please remember this, and not ask credit for we shall have to refuse you.

M. E. Clark Son.

Jan. 10, 1884.

FOR SALE!

I have a lot of fine oak fence posts which I will sell cheap.

J. A. Schmidt.

A. H. Andrews & Co.

Chicago, Ills. P. O. Box.

Largest Manufacturers of School Desks and Seats in the Western States. We also make the most complete line of Church Furniture, Opera Chairs, Blackboards, Globes, Dictionary Holders, Maps, Charts, etc.

S. A. EDWARDS, ACT.

Agent For DeWitt Co Ill

BRING YOUR

JOB

PRINTING

TO THE INDEPENDENT OFFICE

Schenck's Adjustable

Any Handy Man can put the lining into Cook Stove—put in new Fire Backs, new Grates and new Linings—by using SCHENCK'S

FOR SALE—Any one wishing to purchase a fine cow and some household furniture, apply to John Smith.

CLUBBING!!

If you want to subscribe for the INDEPENDENT and the CHICAGO WEEKLY NEWS for $1.50, call at this office and get samples.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Elizabeth Gates Deceased. *The undersigned, having been appointed Administrator of the Estate of Elizabeth Gates deceased, hereby gives notice that he will appear before the County Court of De Witt County, at the Court House in Clinton at the April Term, on the Third Monday in April next, at which time all persons having claims against said Estate are notified and requested to attend for the purpose of having the same adjusted. All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.*

Dated this seventh day of February, A. D. 1 84. *Edward Norvell.*

Administrator.

FOR SALE!

I have a first-class U. O. P. P. Violin, and a good Violincello, which I will sell cheap for Cash. Parties wishing instruments of the kind can get a bargain, by calling on

W. A. Hickman

Wapella, Ill

None but first class Goods In Watches, Jewelry and Silverware one should have the best or none. Messrs. Shurley & Co., Chicago, are making a specialty of fine goods, and if you need anything in Watches, in dust and water proof cases, Solid Silver or Triple Plated Ware, Solid Gold or Rolled Gold Jewelry, send to Shurley & Co., they will send a single article at the dozen price. They are highly recommended for and endorsed by the United States Express Co., American Express Co., Southern Express Co., F. W. Palmer, Postmaster of Chicago, Genl A. C. Smith, Ex-State Treasurer, and many others. Goods sent on approval, with privilege of examination, enabling you to do your purchasing at home. Remember, Shurley & Co., 77 State Street Chicago, Ill. Send for their new and beautiful Diner and Illustrated catalogue.

THE HULLEY HICCOOK STOVE.

THE BEST AND ONLY RELIABLE.

Miss Hassard's Marriage.

On Sept. 16, 1775, the *Virginia Gazette*, published at Williamsburg, Va., contained the following curious announcement of an imperial social event: "Fairfield, Aug 29.—Last evening was married at the seat of Thaddeus Burr, Esq., by the Rev. M. Elliott, the Hon. John Hancock, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, to Miss Dorothy Quincy, daughter of Edmund Quincy, Esq., of Boston. Tories laugh and say that 'in the Second Punic war, when Hannibal besieged Rome and was very near making himself master of it, a field upon which part of his army lay was offered for sale, and was immediately purchased by a Roman, in a strong assurance that the Roman valor and courage would soon raise the siege.' Equal to the conduct of that illustrious citizen was the marriage of the Hon. John Hancock, Esq., who, with his amiable lady, has paid as great a compliment to American valor, and discovered equal patriotism by marrying, now while all the colonies are so much convulsed as Rome when Hannibal was at her gates."

Be Careful of Dressed.

I believe the remark to be partly true that the sense of being prettily well dressed gives to a woman's manner a calm repose anything else is powerless to bestow. I remember a dear little friend of mine who attended a creep-ball, and whose gown was a joy to beholders. "But if you knew what I suffered with my gloves," she said afterward. "I had spent all my allowance in those ruffling lace and thinks (when a woman has been extravagant she always calls her gloves right gloves. I had a dozen pairs at home that had been worn only once. Being so pale, they were a little soiled, but I picked out a very pale opera pair, nearly the color of my gown. Well, I powdered them, and they looked like new, and I was so charmed with my clean that I never gave a thought to the powder at all. After my first waltz, I saw my partner look ruefully at his coat. I was white with the powder from my gloves. I could not explain, so I supposed he thought it came from my face, and not dance again, and we left early. I tried, and told me about it, and she said: 'It served you right. Your toilet is still be complete in every detail, no matter how simple it may be, and you have plenty to expend on it.' I threw the gloves in the fire when I got home, and had the pleasure of seeing the kid burn as if it suffered. I hope it did, I am sure."—*Boston Herald.*

An Ape's Revenge.

Apes, when their anger is aroused, are very dangerous creatures, as they will dare almost anything in order to avenge their wrongs. Many of their deeds of revenge are well known, but the following anecdote, which comes from Italy, is as amusing as we have yet heard of. Il Rosso, a disciple of Angelo, resided in Florence in a garden belonging to some friars. Il Rosso possessed an ape which was on friendly terms with one of the sightly rectifies called Battistino, who enjoyed the animal to steal the friar's grapes, letting it down in the adjacent garden and drawing it up again by a rope. The grapes being missed a watch was set, and one day a friar caught the ape in the very act. He tried to inflict a thrashing, but the ape got the best of it and escaped. Il Rosso, however, was asleep, and his pet sentenced to wear a weight on his tail. But few days passed ere the culprit had an opportunity of avenging the insult. While the friar was performing mass at a neighboring

CENTENNIAL DIRECTORY

Abel, Pete
Abel, William
Adams, Karl F.
Allen, Andrew
Anderson, W. R.
Angel, W. C.
Armtsrong, Ira
Armstrong, John
Armstrong, Lewis
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Arthington, Mrs. Ethel
Arthington, J. W.
Austen, Lynden
Barrett, Claude
Barton, Miss Margaret
Batchelder, M. H.
Baylor, Clifton
Baylor, Merle
Bell, James
Bell, Lloyd
Bethel, Harry
Bethel, Homer
Blake, Gerald
Blake, James
Bland, James
Borders, Charles
Borland, Dorothy
Borland, Gene
Boyd, May
Brady, Francis
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Bray, Merle
Bray, Thomas
Bray, Pleasant
Bray, W. C.
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Brown, Cecil
Brown, Gerald
Brown, James W.
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Bryant, Lonine
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Burger, James
Burley, R. C.
Burns, D. J.
Burton, Jack
Burton, William
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Campbell, Hector
Campbell, Roy
Campbell, Tom
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Carstens, Henry
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Cisco, Lyle
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Clark, M. K.
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Conley, Sidney
Cook, Homer
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Duncan, K. B.

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Fryman, Raymond
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Gardner, Richard
Garris, William
Gasaway, Lester
George, Edward
Gibson, Virgil
Gladden, Clarence
Glenn, Frank
Good Donald
Goodlick, Virgil
Graham, Charles
Graham, W. A.
Green, Earnest
Green, John
Greene, E. M.
Greene, Frank
Greene, Mrs. Irma
Greene, Kenneth
Greene, Leo
Greene, Vernelle
Grey, Glenn
Hale, A. F.
Hale, William
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Hanley, Daniel
Harmon, William
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Head, Joe
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Hickman, Miss Kate
Hickman, Lloyd
Hill, Lloyd
Hilts, Russell
Hoffman, Marucie
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Holland, John
Holland, William
Holman, August
Holman, Dale
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Holt, Joe
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Jackson, Donald
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Jones, J. P.
Jones, Mrs. Susan

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Johnson, John D.
Johnson, Ross
Johnson, S. R.
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Karr, George
Karr, Herbert
Karr, John
Karr, Marvin
Karr, Melvin
Karr, Raymond
Karr, Robert
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Kiernan, Thomas
Kiley, E. P.
Kiley, T. P.
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Kinder, Mrs. Eloise
Kleeman, Lawrence
Kleeman, Victor
Laiser, Fred
Laiser, Mrs. Elizabeth
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Lange, Ernest
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Leggett, Clyde Jr.
Leggett, D. W.
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Leggett, Glenn
Leggett, John
Leggett, R. L.
Leggett, Robert
Leggett, Vernon
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Longbrake, Wilbur
Lord, Richard
Luker, Clint
Magolski, Edward
Malone, John
Martin, F. L.
Mattingly, Roy
Maxwell, Carl
Mayes, Henry
McBrayer, Owen
Mearida, C. H.
Meadors, Henry
Mearida, M. C.
Mearida, Everett
Mearida, T. A.
Medler, J. L.
Menser, Dave
Meyer, Burtis
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Miller, John
Miller, Percy
Miller, Phillip
Mollet, Fremont
Moore, George
Moore, H. O.
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Morris, Loren
Morris, Oscar
Morris, Tom
Morris, William
Mosback, Charles
Mouser Floyd
Mullens, Bill
Mullens, John
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Murphy, Mrs. Ferne
Murphy, Howard
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Newberry, Leonard
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Nixon, Sheldon
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Nowlin, Ralph
Nowlin, Ray
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O'Dea, Leo
Olson, Harry
Park, O. B.

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Perring, Allison
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Phillips, Eugene
Phillips, Melvin
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Pierce, L. W.
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Powers, John
Powers, Leo
Powers, Paul
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Primmer, Fred
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Reum, Lyle
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Rich, William
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Rickard, Warren
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Riddle, Glenn
Riddle, Walter
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Roben, William
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Rousey, James L.
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Scogin, Homer
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Schumaker, Roy
Schwartzel, William
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Short, Harold
Short, Homer
Short, Owen
Short, O. D.
Shue, Garrett
Smith, Robert
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Sledge, Fred
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Spray, Lyle A.
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Strange, James
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Stone, Jesse L.
Stone, William
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Storey, Joe
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Sumpter, Doc
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Summerville Family
Sunderland, John
Swaner, Jarvis
Swanzey, Harold
Swearingen, C. M.
Swearingen, R. L.
Swearingen, Wiley
Swisher, Ida
Sympson, Gerald
Thayer, Richard
Thomas, Melvin
Thomas, Robert

Thoms, Robert
Thorpe, Carl
Thorpe, Claude
Thorpe, Ernest
Thorpe, Freelin
Thorpe, James
Thorpe, Nelson
Thorpe, Robert
Thorpe, Thornton
Toohill, Clement
Toohill, Pat W.
Toohill, L. J.
Torbert, Floyd
Trimble, Delbert
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Troxel, C. W.
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Troxel, Jay
Troxel, Joe
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Turner, M. E.
Turner, William
Tyson, Thomas
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Underwood, George
Van Antewerp, W. A.
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Vaughn, Jasper
Veteto, Albert
Veteto, Eldon
Veteto, John
Walden, Carl
Walden, Claude
Walden, George
Walsh, Leo
Walsh, J. J.
Walsh, W. E.
Washburn, Loren
Welch, Alonzo
Welch, Leslie
Welch, Virgil
Wene, Roy
White, Harvey
Whitney, Margaret
Whitney, Glenn
Whitted, Donald
Whitted, Roy
Wickenhauser, James
Wickenhauser, Lawrence
Wickenhauser, Robert
Wilkerson, Robert
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Williams, William Jr.
Willoughby, John
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Wilson, Irvin
Wilson, J. Arnett
Wilson, Jesse
Wilson, Keith
Wilson, Robert
Wilson, Willard
Witt, Paul
Woollen, Mrs. Mae
Woollen, Earl
Woollen, Leslie
Zimmerman, Earl
Woollen, Otis

TENTATIVE PROGRAM OF THE WAPELLA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

9:00 Opening of Centennial by ringing of church bells, fire whistle and aerial bombs. Entries open in flower show, junior and senior division; cake and pie contest; corn, legume and garden products. All entries are to be registered by 10 A.M. There is a junior and senior division in each contest. Rules appear elsewhere in this booklet.

10 to 12 Judging of above entries.

1:00 Opening Ceremonies by Barrett Rogers, and unveiling of War Memorial.

2:00 (open)

3:00 Old Fiddlers Contest

4:00 Amateur Hour

5:00 to 6:30 Supper

6:30 to 7:30 Judging of beards, dresses, crowning of King, Queen, Prince, and Princess. Presentation of awards for flower show, lawn beautification, school posters, and dance contest.

8:00 Pageant

9:30 to 12:30 Dance.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

9:00 to 12:00 Tug-of-war, greased pig, hog calling, and husband calling contests. Baby Co ntest.

12:00 Dinner for Governor, Chanute Field Band, and Reception committee.

1:00 Parade will line up from Grade School and follow a prearranged route.

3:00 Address by Governor Stratton.

3:30 Organ Melodies

4:30 (open)

7:30 (open)

8:00 Pageant

9:30 to 12:30 Dance

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Services will be held in all of the churches.

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

CONTEST RULES

1. Lawn Beautification—
   Judged in late July, winners announced during Centennial celebration. One winner each in town and country. All families eligible residing within the boundary of the Wapella School Unit. Judged on neatness and general appearance of property.

2. Nomination for Royal Family—
   Candidates for King and Queen must be 17 years of age or older on August 27. Prince and Princess candidates must be 16 years of age or younger on August 27.

3. Fiddlers Contest—

4. Flower Show—
   Junior division, age limit 16. 1 entry per class. Senior division, age 17 or over. 1 entry per classification.

5. Corn, Legumes and Garden Products—
   Classification. Corn, beans, hay, garden vegetables.

6. Cake and Pie (to be auctioned off after judging). Must be wrapped in cellophane and on disposable plates. Judged on external appearance; internal appearance and texture; and flavor.
   Classification of pies: 1. Fruit. 2. Cream.
   Classification of cakes: 1. Sponge (angel food, sponge chiffon). 2. Butter or other fats.

7. Baby Contest—
   Age limit 2 years. Must be resident of school district.

8. Greased Pig—
   Ages 8 to 15.

9. Horseshoe Pitching Contest—
   Age 17 or over.

10. Hog Calling—
    Age 17 or over.

11. Husband Calling—
    Any married woman.

12. Tug-of-War Tournament—
    2 Divisions, Junior (16 years or under). Senior, 5 men to a team.

13. Best Dancers at one of the Centennial Dances—

Different style of dances.

14. Beards—
    1. Most distinguished.
    2. Oldest man with beard.
    3. Youngest man with beard
    5. Best trimmed beard
    6. Non-trimmed beard
    7. Side burns
    8. Mustache
    9. Goatee
    10. Abraham Lincoln Type

15. Costumes—
    1. Oldest costume
    2. Fanciest costume
    3. Simplest costume
    4. Youngest girl in costume
    5. Oldest woman in costume (over 25)

16. Awards for—
    1. Oldest resident
    2. Longest married couple
    3. Most recent married couple

17. Largest Family Present—

18. Family Traveling Longest Distance—

19. School Posters—
    Judged in April. Awards during celebration. Junior and Senior classification.

20. Awards for Centennial Parade—
    1. Oldest automobile
    2. Best horsedrawn vehicle
    3. Best novelty and original float
    4. Best decorated float
    5. Best man on horse
    6. Best woman on horse
    7. Best church sponsored float
    8. Best club sponsored float
    9. Best out of town float
    10. Oldest relic

COMMITTEES FOR WAPELLA CENTENNIAL

George Spray, General Chairman
Mrs. Robert Karr, Secretary
O. B. Park, Treasurer

Reception—
O. B. Park, Chr.
Frank Ryan
Village Board Members

Finance—
Lewis Armstrong, Chr.
Charles Schettler
Jesse Stone
Mrs. Roy Whitted

Parade—
Orville Cain, Chr.
L. W. Pierce
Ernie Greene
Mrs. Lloyd Bell

City Decoration—
Robert Cisco, Chr.
John Harrold
Lawrence Hedrick
Donald Reum
Lyle Cisco

Dance—
Virgil Gibson, Chr.
Mrs. Anita Gibson
Lawrence Toohill
Mrs. Mary Ives
Robert Karr

Contest—
Mrs. John Harrold, Chr.
Mrs. Lyle Cisco
Mrs. Irene Cain
Gene O'Daffer

Entertainment—
Earl Short, Chr.
Glenn Vandervort
Ernest Thorpe
Mrs. Ralph Nowlin
Mrs. Robert Karr
Raymond Karr
John Harrold

Children's—
Mrs. Henry Carstens, Chr.
Mrs. L. W. Pierce
Mrs. Deane Turner
School Teachers

Publicity—
George Spray, Chr.
Irvin Rousey

Relic—
Mrs. Anita Mouser, Chr.
Orville Cain
Mrs. Roy Schumacher
Miss Katherine Keating

Concession—
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Mrs. Glenn Vandervort
Mrs. James Hart
Fremont Mollett
Alfred Stone
J. L. Rousey

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Chicago Markets, Nov. 1854
(Copied from The Pantagraph)

Corn	.50
Wheat (spring)	1.25
Wheat(winter)	1.30
Oats	.31
Hogs	$3 and $4 per 100 lbs.
Hay	5.50
Hay (Timothy)	10.00
Eggs (scarce)	.22

Wapella Markets, Feb. 16, 1884
(Copied from
Wapella Independent)

Cattle	.4 to .4 1-2
Hogs	.4 1-4 to .4 1-2
Wheat	
Rye	.45 to .50
Oats	.28 to .38
Corn	.25 to .40
Butter	.18
Lard	.10
Eggs	.20
Chickens (alive)	.05
Turkeys	.08
Ducks	.05
Geese	.05
Rabbits (doz)	.40

Wapella Mkts, July 16, 1954
(Copied from Bloomington
and Decatur Papers)

Cattle (top)	$24.50 to 24.75
Hogs	23.00 to 23.50
Wheat	1.96 to 1.97
Rye	1.03
Oats	.62
Corn	1.51 to 1.52
Butter	.63
Lard	.25
Eggs	.26
Chickens (fryers)	.16
Hens	.12

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A

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TO

WAPELLA

1854 - 1954

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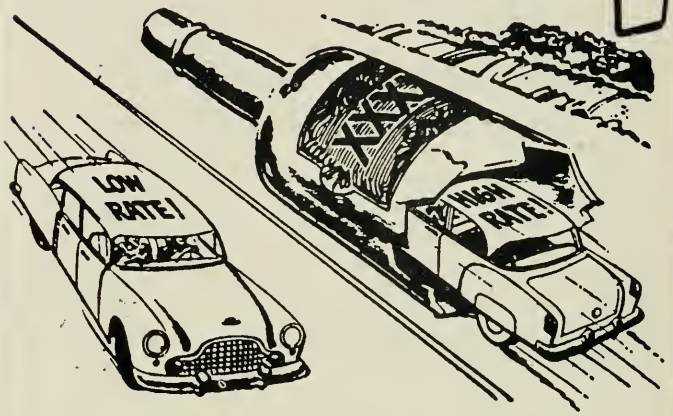

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